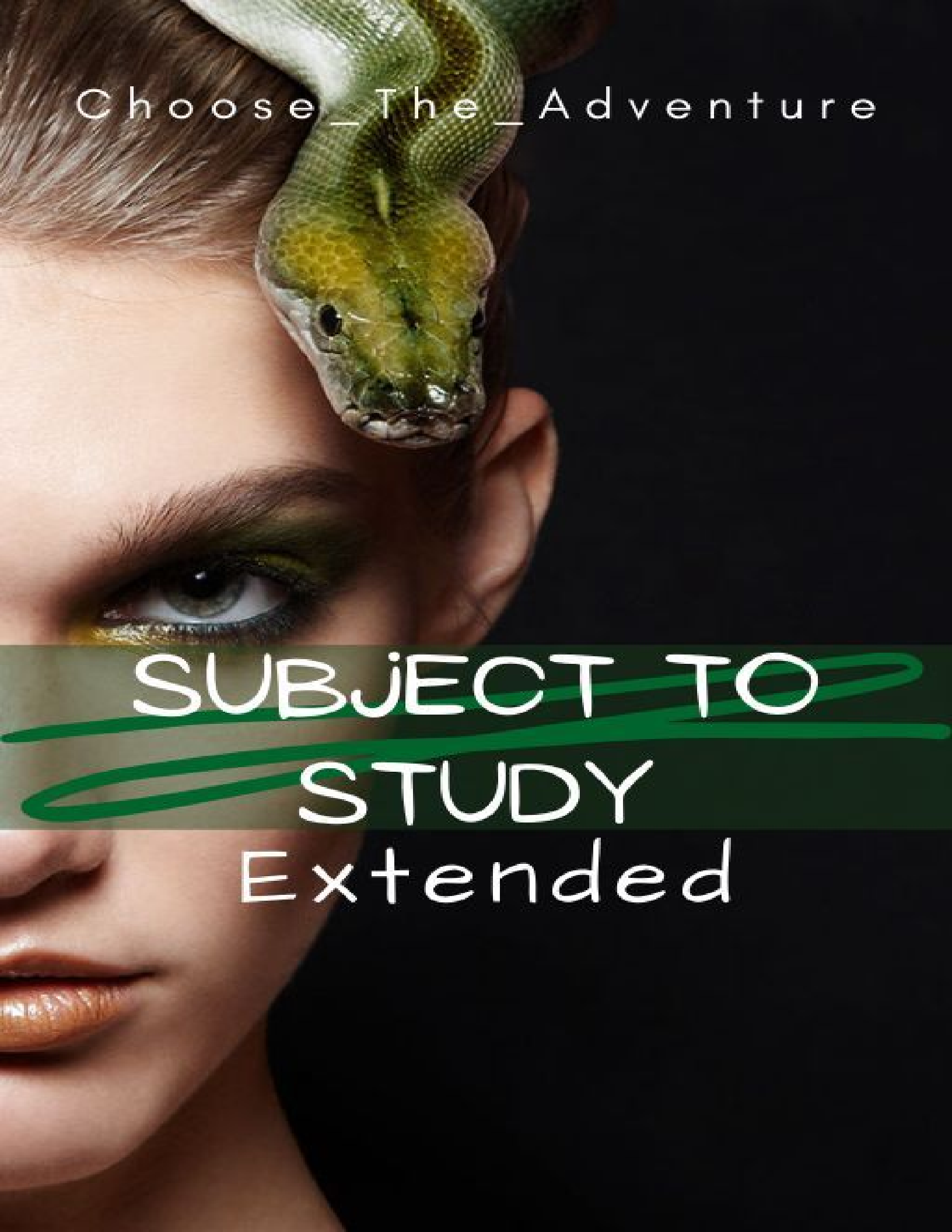
Choose_The_Adventure
SUBJECT TO
STUDY
Extended

1. WARNING
2. Jyushi
3. Oso
4. Choro
5. Todo
6. Kara
7. Ichi

WARNING

This is a mature partial sequel to the main story, 'Subject to Study'.

In order to fully appreciate the relationships that develop during this short extended story, I'd fully advise you to read the main book before diving into this one.

If you just want sexy times with mythical naga creatures without a care for who is who, and just want to see a human get it on with snakes, I clearly can't stop you.

However, if you're into finding out why the nagas act like they do and how their relationship with a human kindled, please go find and read the main story.

Enjoy.

Jyushi

(Updated map with (y/n)'s places of living in each territory.)

Slowly unravelling the last of the gauze around my injured hand, I carefully rotated it until the back of the hand was in view, looking at the remaining scar of the cut that I gave myself almost two weeks ago.

The skin was flush with color, a small raised scab covering what remained of the open cut. As tempted as I was to pick at the scab, I merely lightly rubbed a finger over the hardened bit and felt the rough texture.

"That doesn't look too bad."

I looked towards the naga sitting in front of me, the white and yellow scales catching the sun through the thin canopy as he held some bowl-like object in his hands. Dipping an index finger into the object, I scooped out some prepared herbal paste and squashed it down over the scab before smoothing out the edges of the applied paste.

"It definitely looks better than when we first saw it," Offering a small smile, I rested the pasted hand on top of my leg, "Speaking of getting better..."

Jyushi's smile partially dropped as he focused on me, meeting my colored gaze.

"I heard through the grapevine that you've stopped sending out that warning scent, Jyushi."

"Ah...yeah..." His orange eyes fell from mine, tearing his focus away as he looked towards the shoreline that was close by, the waves barely heard from the boundary of the forest that we were sitting in. I waited for him to explain further, but the silence between us stretched out into minutes, Jyushi making it clear that he didn't want to talk about it voluntarily.

"I'm not mad at you about it, Jyushi," I shifted from my sitting position, kneeling in front of him as I gently cupped his cheeks and lifted his head up to look at me, "We've already talked about this, and you haven't broken your new promise to me, so don't think that I'm mad at you for anything."

"I'm sorry..." He leaned into the uninjured hand, his own lifting up and cupping over my hands against his head, "I know that you're our mate, but it's so frustrating when I hear about how much fun you're having with everyone else."

"That's something we humans call 'jealousy', and it can grow into something that's not healthy. It's why I'm talking to you about it so that it doesn't become worse."

"I'm...jealous of everyone else?"

"That's what I'm picking up from what you've told me," I gently nodded, "If I'm the first person that you love, then it makes sense that you'd hate sharing me with your brothers."

"I don't like it," Jyushi reaffirmed as his tail pressed against my feet and back, encircling both of us as his left hand trialed down my arm and ran his fingers through my unkempt hair, "When that storm hit, I kept your den safe but was upset that Kara was the one to keep you safe."

"He told me that you and Oso weren't extremely happy with where I was for the night."

"I wanted to show you that I could keep you safe."

"You'll get a chance to prove it to me again, Jyushi," I smiled as his fingers lowered from my hair and ghosted over my bottom lip, "With Calmine more than likely upset about me 'stealing' you all from under his nose, he'll probably send someone to try and get you back."

Jyushi's orange eyes hardened as his muscles flexed in response, "I won't let them take me away from you."

"I know you won't."

"(Y/n)..." The fierceness left his eyes as he looked back at me, "I'm scared to mate with you."

My voice caught in my throat, listening to Jyushi's words carefully as he continued.

"When you went into heat, the only thing that was on my mind was taking you...but I was so scared that I was going to break you since you're so much weaker than me. It's part of why I warned everyone to stay away...I thought that if I could focus on keeping you safe from my brothers, then the nasty thought of you snapping in my coils would go away," His thumb pressed down on my bottom lip a little, pulling away completely when he realized he was touching me and yanking his head out of my hands, his tail shifting to release me, "I know I'm strong, I know what I can do to a human when I don't put much effort into it...I'm scared that I'm going to rip you apart when we mate."

"Jyushi--" I raised my right hand before thinking twice about it, putting it back down on my knee, "Jyushi, I know how strong you are and I've got a small idea of what you're capable of. There are times when I'm terrified to be around you, around any of your brothers, but I

trust

you all. If you really feel love for me, then I know that you'll do your best to keep me safe from yourself."

"You don't understand, (y/n)!" Jyushi's voice grew tense, his volume raising a little, "I tore the hunter to

shreds

without thinking twice about it! With just my hands! I didn't just kill a human to keep you and Ichi safe,

I slaughtered him like a monster!

"

Both of his hands were shaking, the fingers splayed wide as he stared down at them like he could still see the blood dripping from each digit. I stayed still, thinking back to the night when Kara tried to stop me from going to the beach, and tried to stop me from seeing Jyushi covered in human blood.

"Thinking of us mating both excites me and

terrifies

me..." His voice grew quiet after the outburst, his hands lowering to his sides as the large tail coiled up underneath him.

"I don't know what to say, Jyushi," I spoke after a long pause, not moving from my spot, "I can't get rid of those thoughts for you, but I can show you that you won't rip me apart."

Jyushi switched his focus from his hands back to my face, the uncertainty obvious in his eyes, "How?"

I held out my hands to him with the palms up, beckoning for him to give me his hands. He gently lay his hand against mine, our palms pressing together.

"Do you remember when we slept together at the zoo? How you created a bed for me to lay on and used your tail to make sure that I didn't fall off?"

"Mm-hmm."

"Were you afraid of crushing me then?" I pulled his hands towards me a little, Jyushi responding by inching a little closer to me.

"A little bit."

"I still woke up after I fell asleep with you, and I felt safe," I leaned forward and kissed Jyushi's forehead, "I trust you."

"I..." He stiffened when my lips brushed his skin, yanking his hands out of mine and fleeing from my touch, "I can't!"

Jyushi withdrew completely into the forest, rushing away from me before I could even try to stop him.

Staring at the bushes that he pushed through, I let my arms drop to my sides as I felt an overwhelming feeling of guilt rise in my gut, sitting alone as the waves of the ocean continued to wash against the shore like nothing had happened.

I lay on my leafy bed, both of my hands covering my face as I thought back on the exchange that happened between Jyushi and I a few days ago.

I was only meaning to show that he could be around me without fear of hurting me, but nothing I said seemed to get through to him. In fact, it didn't seem like

anything

I said got through to him.

Sitting up in bed, I took in a deep breath as I lowered my hands, standing up and walking out of my home in Jyushi's territory. I didn't know where his den was, but I knew that I only had one chance to show that he shouldn't be ruled by his fear.

Was it wrong to force this? Probably, but I felt like I didn't have any other choice.

"Jyushi!" I called out as I walked through the wetlands, avoiding the deeper places and following some of his older trails, "I want to talk with you."

With each trail leading to a dead-end, I became more and more frustrated as time dragged on, the sun starting to lower from its highest peak down to the horizon. I looked everywhere I walked for the reticulated naga, wishing that I could just catch a sight of some of his scales.

"Jyushi, please..."

Nothing responded to me as I sat down heavily near a large tree, the size reminding me of where we had met near the lab. Leaning my back and head against the trunk, I took in a deep breath and closed my eyes, letting my frustration ebb as acceptance filled its place in my heart.

If Jyushi didn't want to be found, then I wasn't going to find him. Despite his size, he was the one suited for this biome and knew exactly where to go when he didn't want to be seen.

The sun lowered until it nearly touched the thin line between the ocean and the sky, my stomach harshly reminding me that I needed to eat as I opened my eyes again before standing up. As I moved to take a step forward, the sound of a branch snapping above me snared my attention and making me freeze. I cautiously looked up and met a pair of orange eyes high in the branches, the naga hard to see through the leaves as something rustled between us.

A small leafy branch fell from the tree, my eyes tracking it as it fell down to the ground. It was covered in green leaves with several small black clusters of berries that sprouted from the stems. I had seen this before when Todo was pointing out fruits that were safe for me to eat in his territory, and I bent down to pick up the small offering of food, plucking some of the berries and popping them in my mouth. The tartness flooded my taste buds before a sweet sensation coated my tongue, and I pulled a few more berries as I walked back to the tree to sit down again.

"Is...it good?"

"It tastes like blackberries that are still a little green, but I don't mind the tartness," I responded without looking up at Jyushi, hearing some bark crack on the tree, "You're...not going to run away from me, are you?"

"No," Another crack of bark sounded a lot closer than the others, "Not this time..."

"I wanted to apologize to you, actually...I thought I was doing the right thing a few days ago, but I didn't realize that I was making you uncomfortable with what I was doing," I closed my eyes as I felt Jyushi's

hand gently rub against the top of my head, his fingers slipping down to cup my cheek as I spoke, "I don't know what you're struggling with because I don't have your strength, and I don't know what it's like to mate with any of you...I'm scared, as well. I don't want to be killed in a fit of passion--"

Jyushi's other hand mirrored his action on the other side of my head before it covered my mouth, stopping me from speaking further. It didn't press down harder like he was trying to suffocate me, releasing a bit when I became silent.

"I still want to try mating with you," His voice was right next to my left ear, quiet as I opened my eyes, "But I'm scared, too."

Jyushi's hands left my head as they lowered down my neck and shifted into a loose hug around my shoulders, his touch light and curious, "Are you...still wanting to be with me?"

"Yes," I nearly whispered the word in the silence. I bit down a surprised cry as his fingers grabbed my shirt before I felt myself lifted up into the tree, reaching up and holding onto Jyushi's forearms to make sure that I didn't fall.

Feeling one of his smaller coils twist around my waist before my legs draped over a larger length of tail, I looked above me to see Jyushi's pensive expression as he carefully set me down on his coils. His arms slowly pulled away from me when he was sure that I wouldn't slip from his grasp, his orange eyes flitting over my face like he was trying to gauge my reaction.

"Are you...comfortable?" Jyushi lowered his humanoid half to rest next to me, "You're not scared?"

"Well, the sudden elevation change was a bit of a surprise, but I'm comfortable here," I settled into my seat on his coils, feeling his tail loosen around my waist, "I don't feel like I'm going to fall."

"I--" He hesitated speaking, moving from his spot to rest in front of me, his hands holding onto my knees while he leaned a little towards me, "I want to

give this a try. If we're in a tree, then maybe I can distract myself from that...bad image...by focusing my strength on keeping us up here."

I blushed furiously, "You want...to try mating here?"

Jyushi gave a slow nod, a small blush starting to spread across his cheeks.

"If you think that's going to work, then let's give it a try," A nervous smile spread across my lips before it grew more confident, my hands moving to rest on his.

"Before we start, though...How do humans mate?"

"Uh, well..." I felt the blush spread throughout my face, growing hotter with each passing second, "The act of humans mating can be performed in a lot of positions, but the most common one is when the female is underneath the male."

I felt myself shifting in position before I realized that Jyushi had moved me to lay beneath him, my breath hitching as he hovered above my body while his tongue flicked in and out of his mouth.

"Like this?"

"Well, it's the starting position, yes," I fought to keep the nervousness out of my voice, knowing that I had to essentially describe what the missionary sex position was to someone who literally had no idea what it was, "There's a thing called foreplay that a lot of humans perform on each other, gently touching their partn--mate to urge them into an aroused state. After that, they usually just let their instincts run the show. There's no set pattern to follow, so each coupling is different between humans."

"Isn't that what we were doing?" Jyushi lowered himself to rest against my chest, his tail slipping over my hips before tightening around my knees, "We were mating before?"

"When we first met? No, that wasn't mating," I shook my head before feeling his cool hands start to slide underneath my shirt, pressing into my

back, "Some humans consider that foreplay, but to me...there needs to be more contact between us."

"That's very different to what I want to do," His voice was soft as his hands began to rub small circles against my skin, "When I think of mating with you, I can only think of me wrapped around you...and we're locked together."

"Well, it's our first experience with this..." I nervously bit my bottom lip, "Since I'm still technically a guest here, I want you to do what you feel is right and I'll let you know if it hurts."

"Promise?" Jyushi lifted me up a little, pressing our chests together as his orange eyes regarded me with care.

"Promise--" I didn't have time to say anymore as he kissed me on the lips, his coils shifting underneath me to keep me close to him as his hands rose higher on my back, the edge of my shirt lifting with his forearms. The coil around my knees shifted further down until it hung off of only one ankle, a light moan slipping from my throat as I felt the tip of his tail curl around my left calf as it ducked inside my pant leg. My heart began to race in excitement as Jyushi's kiss deepened, his slim tongue slipping between my lips and twisting around my own tongue.

Both of his hands hooked around my shoulders as I raised my arms subconsciously above my head, the shirt riding high as his fingers rose higher to rest against my neck. The fabric caught underneath my breasts before Jyushi broke the kiss, lightly tugging on my tongue as he pulled his own away. The heated look in his orange eyes stirred a similar heat in my core, letting a small gasp out from my mouth as I realized the tip of his tail had reached my upper thigh, moving around in a swiping motion.

Jyushi lowered himself down to investigate my abdomen, his tongue brushing against my skin every so often before his eyes caught whatever interested him. I stilled as his hands lowered from my neck and out from under the shirt, his fingers pulling up the gathered cloth even further to expose my bra-covered breasts. His curiosity took hold again as he pushed the shirt up to my neck before letting his hands lightly trace a path back

down to my chest, brushing against the edges of the bra while 'tasting' what it was.

A small part of my brain called out for him to touch my breasts, but I never voiced the demand, letting the reticulated naga explore what he wanted at his own speed.

Jyushi's hands briefly touched each breast before his fingers ducked underneath the bra, caressing each flesh mound before following the bra to my back and easily undoing the clasp holding the support garment in place. My breasts fell with gravity as the bra completely relaxed from its taut position, resting on my upper chest while Jyushi focused on my breasts once more.

The tail caught my attention once more as it snaked its way from my upper thigh to my waist, catching on my underwear before curling around the small bit of fabric between the elastic waistband and where my thigh was. It didn't move any further than that as Jyushi's hands brought my focus back to my chest, each hand gently cupping a breast as the tail underneath me shifted to lift me up, forcing my left breast to meet his open mouth.

Stars exploded in my head as I felt his tongue wrap around the nipple and pull a little, his sharp teeth catching the skin and keeping me from pulling away. I let out a satisfied moan while his eyes locked onto my face, reading my expression before continuing.

One of his hands released the breast that was in his mouth, his fingers pressing down as they worked their way down towards my waist. I barely felt the tug on my pants before they loosened, the tail tip reaching up and pulling everything down to my ankles, where the fabric caught onto the length of tail still holding onto the right ankle. Gasping from the sudden exposure, my breath caught as Jyushi distracted me with another flick of his tongue against a nipple, the whine breathy and heated.

His hand continued down to my groin, the area begging to be touched from the teasing it got from the tail, Jyushi's fingers lightly brushing against where most of the heat was settled. Releasing the one breast, Jyushi

immediately clamped down on the other with the same show of affection that he had already given the other.

"Ah, Jyushi...it feels really good..." I screwed my eyes shut as I rested my left forearm over them, just wanting to experience his touch through my other senses.

"Then, I'm doing everything right?" He pulled away from my breast a little, the sensitive nipple catching his breath.

"Yes, you're doing

everything

right--"

Words failed me as I felt something press against my core, the sensation marking it as a finger before it curled in an unnatural way, my mind quickly labelling it as the tip of his tail before Jyushi's actual finger lightly brushed against the sensitive bundle of nerves that was my clit. With his mouth still continuing its affection on my breast, the new sensations were enough to drive me mad before I felt Jyushi adjust himself over me.

"I'm going to lock with you, (y/n)--" The need in his voice brought my attention to him, causing me to lift my forearm off of my eyes and meet his orange gaze, "Your scent is driving me insane..."

"It's okay, Jyushi," I responded quickly, catching my breath as I watched him reach for something at the bottom of my vision, "You can lock with me."

Those words were all Jyushi needed before I felt a sharp pain lance through my core, his fingers and tail no longer near my entrance as his hips pressed flush against my thighs. I bit down on a scream, not wanting him to think that I was injured, and rode out the wave of pain as whatever was inside me suddenly grew in both girth and length.

"(Y/n)--" My name was a moan in Jyushi's voice, "This feels...really nice...!"

Without giving me a chance to respond, he started grinding his hips against mine, his tail lifting me up into a near-standing position before Jyushi's hands pressed my shoulders against the trunk of the tree, another length of tail curling around my breasts and waist to cinch me to the tree.

The new position was beyond what I expected, feeling Jyushi ram into me over and over while his hands travelled between my breasts and shoulders as if they were unsure of where to settle. The reticulated naga grunted before his mouth found mine and gave me a heated kiss, his thrusts becoming harsher as my body rode out his passion, gravity helping me fall back down onto his girth and the tree giving me the support I didn't realize I needed as Jyushi rammed back into me.

His orange eyes squeezed shut as he pulled away from the kiss, the pounding becoming more and more erratic as I let myself go, feeling a wave of pleasure course through my body before another fire was lit in my core, quickly building into a second orgasm that was more intense than the first.

My cries were silenced by Jyushi kissing me again, his girth pulsing inside of my core before I heard him whine, breaking the kiss quickly and shouting out a wordless cry. With a harsh thrust, I felt an intense heat spread within me before it ran down the inner sides of my legs, crying out in pleasure as Jyushi gave another few thrusts, pressing my back roughly into the tree and filling me up past the brim.

His tail slipped off of me and caught me in his arms before I could fall, instantly laying my twitching body down on his coils before collapsing next to me, his breathing heavy. I weakly reached for one of his hands, our fingers intertwining as we looked at each other.

"Are...we mates now?" His voice sounded tired, but his eyes only held excitement.

"Yes," I gave a small nod, "We're mates now, Jyushi."

His smile made my heart skip a beat before a thought crossed my mind.

"You...do remember that I need to do this with your brothers, too, right?"

"I do," Jyushi nodded back, propping himself up with his arms as he looked down at me, "But...while I have you here...can we lock again?"

The blush returned tenfold on my face, the familiar heat starting to build back up in my core.

"Of course, we can."

Oso

"Right here?" I grunted as I pressed my arms down onto Oso's skin, feeling something resist my probing hands before a muted crack reverberated from his spine.

"Ahh...yeah, you got it," The whine from Oso's lips was full of relief, his head against the flattened long grass. I sat up on his upper tail before sliding off and sitting next to the completely relaxed red-headed krait naga, partially amazed that he hadn't flinched at all as I poked and prodded at the kinked spots along his back. His tail hadn't even waggled to show his disapproval of what I did.

"Are you all right?" I lightly laughed as I gently placed a hand on his right shoulder, watching as he swivelled his head to look at me, the dual red-and-black hues catching my gaze before closing.

"Oh, yeah..." Another breathy sigh escaped his lips, "My brothers would've done it wrong and their fingers definitely hurt more than yours do."

"Considering that I don't have the strength that the others do, I can see why you waited until I was supposed to be living here for a few days," Moving my hand in small circles on his shoulder, I glanced down at the shrinking rash near the small of his back where his scales met skin, "Have you been doing anything to that?"

"Hmm?" Oso looked up at me to see where I was looking, glancing over his shoulder before resting his head again, "Just soaking. It was itchy like crazy a few days ago, but the cold water helped a bit."

"I'm glad that it hasn't been getting worse, especially since I've been ignoring you..."

"You had other things to worry about, (y/n). I'm done holding things over your head to get you to cooperate with me," He folded his arms underneath his head as some of his tail shifted closer to me, a smaller length near the tip

of his tail brushing against my left calf, "You're with us, we've kinda found something that works for all of us in regards to you living here, and the closest human civilization is a long ways away."

"Were you...bothered by what Jyushi and I did?" I felt a little bit of warmth rise up in my cheeks.

"Oh?" I picked up the teasing tone Oso suddenly had, "And what did you and my little brother do...?"

"You know what we did," I pushed my hand hard against his shoulder, hearing his laughter as I used the momentum to stand up, "I didn't know if you were affected by my scent, too."

Oso gathered his coils underneath him as he stood, rolling his shoulders before crossing his arms across his chest, "No, it wasn't your scent that alerted us. We could all taste Jyushi's excitement and guessed that the only thing that would make him feel that at this point was mating with you."

The blush became more intense on my cheeks, moving my hands to cover what I could as Oso's eyes partially closed.

"From your reaction, we were right."

"You're...not upset that he was first?"

"Why would I be upset when I know you're going to be mating with me, too?" The coy smirk fell from his face, instantly replaced with a look of confusion, "I know that it'll happen at some point, so I'm just waiting my turn."

"Is there a queue for me or something?" I looked over at him in partial confusion.

"Not necessarily," Oso's expression reset with a smile, "With you living on the island with us, we just kinda agreed that there didn't need to be a time constraint for when this needed to happen. If we detect that your body is

going into heat, we'll push you towards the den at the overlook so we don't make a mistake...but everything else is up to you."

Understanding washed over my features as I lowered my hands from my cheeks. The nagas were still wanting to mate with me, but weren't going to force it to happen.

"Oh, speaking of den," The red-headed naga's voice caught my attention, "I found those plants that you were wanting from my territory and re-buried them near your den."

"You did? That's good news!" A wide smile spread over my lips, "Can I go check them out?"

"Sure," He returned my smile, "You don't need permission to visit your den from me. My territory doesn't have the obstacles some others have, so I'm not worried about you wandering into something dangerous."

Wading through the long grass, I found the smallish dip in the land before sliding down it. The slope suddenly pulled up a few feet before a hole opened up in the earth, carved out by my and Oso's tools. The hole dipped back down into a sizable room that was formed from packed dirt and roots, ensuring that it wouldn't capsize.

I saw the plants that Oso had told me about, sitting within a patch of freshly turned-over earth. A few of them were for creating some of the herbal pastes that I was starting to master, while two of them were meant for food.

Ensuring that they were replanted correctly, I ducked into the hole and moved towards the small collection I had of dried herbs, picking a few leaves from the stalk of bay and basil before setting them into a carved rock mortar. Crushing them with a pestle, I dumped the loose powder into another small carved rock bowl before leaving my earthen home.

Straightening out, I carefully picked one of the leaves from the new plants and lay it on top of the crushed dried leaves, mentally going through the recipe in my head to create a soothing paste that would relieve aching muscles. The closest fresh water source was to the north, a small stream that

wasn't even deep enough to submerge my whole hand in, but it was enough to gather a little bit of water for the paste I was making.

I started the hour-long hike to the spring with the bowl clutched safely in my hands.

Giving the mixture a final stir, I tested the consistency with the small stick I used to mix it all together, satisfied with the tacky thickness before rubbing the stick against my wrist to calm down the soreness that was starting to flare up from the constant stirring. The paste clung to my skin easily and spread like peanut butter over the surface, bringing a smile to my face.

Standing up from the crouched position I had been in for the last few minutes, my ears picked up a distant sound that chilled me to the bone.

The familiar thudding of a helicopter rotor.

I quickly scanned the horizon to look for that obtrusive dot in the sky, but couldn't see anything. Grabbing the bowl tightly in my hands, I started running back down the side of the mountain slope, hoping that I could dive into the tall grass that spread out like a tan and green carpet at the bottom of the mountain. With no brother around to warn me of where the helicopter was coming from, I couldn't take any chances that this was a friendly team coming to the island.

The thudding noise grew in volume before it suddenly blasted my ears with full force, as if something had been masking the sound. I barely looked behind me to see a twin-rotor helicopter launch itself from behind the mountain range, screaming above me before continuing on over the grassy fields of Oso's territory. My feet barely skidded to a halt as the helicopter swung around in a tight circle, the hull leveling out underneath the powerful blades as the pilot decided on a landing spot.

This helicopter wasn't as large as the Mil that we rode back in, but it was enough to carry two or three nagas within its cargo hold.

My heart thudded in my chest violently, fear quickly replacing the feeling of dread as the helicopter tires touched down, landing the massive helicopter between me and a hiding place. I was effectively pinned down on the mountainside, with the closest shelter that I knew of deep within Oso's territory. My feet made my decision for me, gripping the rocks as they guided me back up the side of the mountain.

Surely, the nagas knew that this thing was here by now, and I could only hope that one of them was close enough to help.

Oso looked up as the familiar sound of the strange thunder echoed across the fields, his tongue picking up Choro's warning as his red-and-black eyes locked onto the flying contraption that circled around near the northern border of his territory. A growl rolled within his chest as he saw it start to lower to the ground, tasting the fear of Todo and Choro when they realized it was after something in Oso's territory.

He raced towards the machine before his tongue picked up a new scent: (y/n)'s absolute terror.

Oso knew that there was nothing in his territory that would cause that kind of reaction from her, which meant that she was closer to the thing than he was...and he needed to fix that problem

fast.

'Where are you, Choro?'

Oso sent towards his younger brother, knowing that the helicopter crossed over his territory first before settling on the fields.

'Nowhere close!'

The oldest gritted his teeth, peering above the seas of tall grass before locking onto the growing helicopter as he closed the distance. The back of the helicopter had opened up, but nothing was coming out.

'I'm dealing with whoever is here. Get into position to help just in case I fail.'

The finality of the scent mustered an agreement from his brothers, all of them now feeling the fear that (y/n) was clearly projecting.

I withheld a scream as my hand scraped across a sharp rock, the paste bowl long forgotten as I needed both of my hands to scale the mountainside. I didn't hear the rotors die down when the helicopter landed, which only meant that the pilot was looking for a quick turnaround...and I was the only living thing that was close enough to the helicopter when it landed.

I had called out for all of the nagas, but when I slid down a steep part of the mountain face for the third time, it was all I could do to not cry out in pain as my body tumbled down a good ten feet from where I was. Shouts responded to my desperate attempt at climbing the slope for a fourth time, my eyes barely glancing over my shoulder to see a small group of people climbing up after me.

They were well-armed with weapons, much more than the hunters that had landed previously. It almost appeared that they weren't going to take any kind of chance with who they were clearly hunting. The military-like appearance warned me of their potential killing skills as one of the people raised their rifle towards me, fueling my fear as I tried to scale the slope sideways in an attempt to run away.

"(Y/n) (l/n)! You're to stand down and come with us!" Someone shouted behind me, "Do not call any of the monsters to you, and they will keep their lives!"

I turned and threw a large stone towards the advancing group, my back pinned against the mountain as I reached for another rock to throw.

A gunshot cracked out and I screamed as the bullet ricocheted close to my outstretched hand, pulling it back quickly and staring at the four men that were within spitting distance of me now. The helmets looked to be of

military design, thick sunglasses covering their eyes while a dust mask was wrapped around their lower face to completely hide their features.

Two of the men aimed their rifles at me with the other two grabbed at my arms, dragging me up off the mountain while their radios chattered in hushed tones. I tried to violently wrench myself out of their grip, twisting my shoulders and digging my booted heels into the rocky ground, but every move I made was met with the same strength of resistance, the people not affected by what I was doing.

A voice on their radios shouted out something before going dead, a wave of tension rippling through the small group that was dragging me back to the helicopter. One of the people handling me quickly turned to me and slapped the back of their heavily gloved hand across my face.

"Call off the monster!"

"No," I glared up at him, feeling my right cheek throb in pain as the taste of iron started to fill my mouth. Another slap landed on the same cheek, the pain intensifying before someone shouted at the person hitting me...something about hurting me would incense the monsters even more.

"(Y/n), call off the monster or we

will

kill it," A commanding voice called out from one of the humans in front of me, the rifle comfortably laying in their arms as they looked at me through the sunglasses.

Another shout through the radio sounded like a warning from the pilot, the group no longer focusing on me but rather on the path they took to get to me. The two people holding me shoved me down to the ground behind them, swinging their weapons up towards the path.

I sucked in a breath, "They know you're coming!"

The butt end of a rifle cracked down on my right shoulder, making me cry out in pain and collapsing on the ground, my left hand pressing down on the tender area.

A scream of agony pierced the silence after my cry, drawing my attention to one of the four men crumpled on the ground, his hands reaching for his back as Oso loomed over him.

The naga was constantly hissing with each breath he took, regardless of exhale or inhale, and his chest was marked with new scratches and cuts. Oso's two-inch long fangs travelled past his bottom lip, fully extended as his teeth were exposed in a wicked snarl. His red-and-black eyes seemed to glow with a ferocity I've never seen before, quickly looking at me before switching to the human closest to him.

I covered my ears and ducked into a ball as I heard gunfire open up around me, stifling a shout of fear as the humans issued commands to each other. I tried to watch what was happening, but I kept flinching at the loud concussive blasts of the rifles, shutting my eyes reflexively.

Fighting against my reflexes, I kicked out at one of the humans legs near me, making them stumble and fall to the ground. I was instantly on top of them, fighting for control of the rifle. I didn't know how to fire one, but one less gun pointed at Oso meant that he had a slightly bigger chance of surviving a little bit longer. The dust mask had fallen loose from their face, revealing masculine features.

"Get off of me!" He shouted, wrenching the rifle from my grip and shoving me to the side, forcing me belly-first to the ground. Before he could do anything else, a hand gripped his exposed throat tightly and yanked him away from me, a wall of black scales resting over my back to keep me still.

"You're the last one," The finality of Oso's words drew my attention up to him, seeing grazes and cuts all around his arms and back. His breathing was intense, but the hissing had lessened as he spoke, "Can you fly that thing?"

"Ye-yes..." The man's voice was weak as he clung to Oso's arm holding him high above the ground, the toes of his bots almost three feet off of the

ground.

"(Y/n), are you all right?" The naga didn't look down at me, but the muscles within his tail urged me to stand up, a coil lifting so I could use it as an assist.

"I'm...a little beat up, but not really hurt," I rested a hand on the length of tail near me, feeling it respond by pressing against me before lowering to the ground. Oso seemed pleased with hearing my answer as he started moving down the mountain towards the waiting helicopter, the human whimpering in his grip.

"Are you sure that he's not going to report this?" I watched the helicopter lift off, aiming itself towards the northeastern edge of the island. Oso's arms were firmly wrapped around my shoulders, with some loose coils of his tail surrounding my feet while his chin propped itself on top of my head.

"He's not going to have the chance," The oldest sounded like he was smiling.

Before I could even form the question of 'why', I watched with shock as a large boulder launched itself from behind the mountain range and collided with the rear half of the helicopter. The machine spiralled out of control, its engines screeching as it spun out of sight beyond the range.

A muffled impact tore through the air as Oso started to laugh, "See?"

"Wha--how--what the fuck?!" I stammered as I tried to look up at Oso, feeling his head move off of mine and meet my bewildered gaze with his dual hues calm and content.

"A gift from Jyushi," The smile he offered was both comforting and concerning, "He's been wanting to show off what he could do without scaring you, so I gave him the opportunity."

"Jyushi...is

that strong

?" The image of my naked body within his coils flashed in my head, his fear suddenly making all kinds of sense. If he could huck a large boulder with enough force to down a military aircraft, then

of course

he'd be frightened of ripping me asunder when we were intimate.

"My little brother is gifted with strength. He could probably rearrange the mountains if he had the drive to...though not all at once."

"Ah..." The word slipped from my mouth without thought, my mind still black from the realization. A sharp gasp from Oso drew my attention behind me, seeing him press a hand against his left pectoral muscle as he gritted his teeth in pain, "Oso...?"

"It's nothing much...just a close call," He lowered his arm to reveal the full extent of his injuries. While I couldn't see any bullet holes, there were scratches, welts, and slashes that covered his entire torso.

"Oso, you're really hurt!" I turned to him, worry settling in my eyes as I looked over everything that I could see. Some of the scales on his shoulders and neck showed signs of scuffing, which meant they had deflected an attack, "Oh, geez..."

"It's nothing to get panicked over, (y/n)...really," His words brought Kara's warning to mind, forcing myself to calm down but unable to hide the hurt in my eyes. Oso carefully tilted my chin up to face him, his hand warm to the touch, "Someone told you, then?"

"Kara did, after the hunters were taken care of," I nodded a little, "I'm trying."

"Do you want to know what you can do to help me?"

"What...?"

"You can put that herbal medicine on my wounds so they stop bleeding," A gentle smile rested on his lips. My heart fluttered within my chest, giving

another nod before Oso took my hand and began leading me to my den.

Oso's skin jumped at my touch as I started to rub the freshly-made paste across the wounds on his back, carefully making sure that I had washed off each cut and tear with the water that I had gathered from earlier. He withheld making any sounds other than smaller pointers to correct my posture as I leaned over him, letting me work on his back and arms first since they weren't as badly hurt as his chest.

"Did...you save me by yourself because you had to, or because you wanted to get as many of these as you could handle?"

"It's a bit of both," He spoke softly, his fingers twirling the tip of his tail as I worked, "Choro had sent a warning when I saw that flying thing start to land, and I knew that I was the closest one to you. I had told them to take over if I failed, so the others were close enough to move in..."

"What would you have done if there was another brother closer to me?" My fingers worked the paste into a larger cut near Oso's waist.

"Well, that didn't happen, so I don't know."

"You're done on your back and arms," I sat up and let the red-headed naga turn over in the grass, watching as he let go of his tail and stretched out before slowly rolling onto his back. With the blood washed off of his chest, I began to work on the smaller cuts and wounds first.

"(Y/n)," The tone of Oso's voice drew my focus to his eyes, "Part of me wonders what would've happened if you were the only human to come here."

"What do you mean?" I lowered my hand from his chest, the paste partially smeared over my index and middle finger as I was mid-application.

"Jyushi was drawn to you because you acted differently than the others that came before you," Oso's right hand moved from his side to rest against my cheek, "I already know that if you were like the rest, we wouldn't have

anything to do with you...but a small thought remains in my mind about 'what if you were alone'."

"You mean...like now?" I felt my cheeks start to heat up as his fingers lowered from my cheek to my neck, pressing lightly against the side of an artery as Oso partially closed his eyes.

"I already know that we wouldn't have the bond that we currently share -- of having a common enemy that we want to protect the other from," His fingers slowly inched towards the back of my head, the motion bringing my face closer to his, little by little, "I'm just wondering if I would've had the chance to see you first."

"Would seeing me first change your opinion of me?" My breath hitched in my throat as I felt his breath dance across my lips, our faces still getting closer together.

"Probably...but I'll admit that you're

really

fun to tease," The coy smirk spread his lips wide as his hand pulled away from my head, instantly halting my movement forward. The blush flooded my face as I sat up, my heart pounding in my chest as Oso started laughing, closing his eyes with pleasure.

Frustrated at the emotional yank of my heart, I knelt over him and pressed my lips against his, smothering Oso's joyous laughter and causing him to cry out in surprise. I only held the kiss for a few seconds before pulling away, pressing the back of my hand against my lips as he stared up at me with wide eyes. The look of absolute surprise was a new expression on Oso's usually calculating face before it quickly vanished, a confident smile tugging at his lips as his black pupils constricted into narrow slits.

"You don't get to run away

that

easily, (y/n)."

His hands flew up to my head and tangled themselves in my hair, a deep moan rolling up within his chest as he instantly returned the kiss ferociously. Without giving me another chance to pull away, he tilted his head a little to the side and opened his lips against mine, the slender forked tongue twisting around mine.

My hands planted themselves on either side of Oso's head as I was forced to stabilize my position, my fingers gripping onto some smaller blades of grass while I endured the rough kiss.

Oso's hands loosened themselves from my hair, his nails catching on my shirt as he lowered them to my back. A heated cry sounded from my throat as I felt a slim length of tail press itself between my legs, his tongue releasing its hold on mine as he pulled away, "Ah, so that's where it is..."

"Oso..." I whined as my grip on the grass tightened, feeling the tail shift up and down over my pants.

"What is it, (y/n)? Is there something that you

want

me to do?" His voice was dripping with confidence, my heart pounding like crazy as his tail moved once more, "Something down there?"

"Please...I want to mate with you...!" The tone in my voice surprised me, the last sane part of my brain wondering if I was becoming more excited because of what Jyushi did to me.

"I think I know what to do," Oso pressed his lips against the area of skin where my shoulder met my neck, "But I want to have fun first."

His hands tightened on the back of my shirt and pulled down, drawing the neckline of the shirt tight across the front of my neck and exposing some of my shoulder. Oso partially opened his mouth and let his teeth glide across my skin before lightly biting down, the pain somehow turning into pleasure

as the tail managed to swell in size. The tip of his tail lightly curled over my belly before pushing up towards my breasts, the bra keeping them mostly in place as I cried out. My core was extremely sensitive from the sudden assault and I could almost feel every ridge of Oso's scales as he maneuvered his tail against my covered entrance, hitting the right spots as his hands and mouth held me in place.

I bit my bottom lip in an attempt to silence myself as I felt his tail push up between my breasts, curling around the right one while Oso's mouth let my shoulder go. A look crossed his eyes that I couldn't place before I heard a tear of fabric, the air suddenly greeting my chest as the neckline of my shirt loosened.

"Oso, you didn't--" His mouth captured mine before I could complain about the torn shirt, his fingers digging into my back a little as he dragged them down to my waist. The tail tightened around my breast, the still clasped bra now shoved out of the way and resting high on my chest as I moaned into the kiss, feeling the finger-like tip brush across the now exposed nipple.

Oso's hands rested on my waist before lowering further, his tail pushing me up towards his head as each hand settled on a buttock, squeezing gently while the tail rubbed mercilessly against my entrance. He let the kiss break by way of an extra hard rub, the tail now ensuring that my chest was above his face.

"I'm sure that Jyushi and you had fun...but when you're in my territory, you'll know to only focus on

me.

"

His teeth grazed against my left breast before he squeezed my butt hard, causing me to cry out. In the same motion, his slim tongue narrowed in on my other nipple and gave it the same attention that his tail was offering the right one. I could feel the gaps in his teeth where his fangs would fold out, hoping that he wouldn't nick me with them, but the thought was instantly dashed from my mind when I felt my pants loosen around their waistband.

Oso's fingers dove underneath the clothing to meet the thin fabric of my underwear still covering my buttocks, his nails catching on the material before I felt a small laugh roll against my left breast.

"I'll leave that one alone, don't worry..." Oso managed around the sensitive mound of flesh against his mouth, lavishing more attention on it after speaking. My legs were forced to spread wider as his tail moved up further, the thickness against my core nearly doubling in size as the thin tip of his tail wrapped around my mouth, smothering my heated cries like a gag.

When he was certain that I couldn't cry out, Oso guided me to straddle his waist by simply lifting my body with his tail, my hands ripping out some grass in the process. I felt his hands dip back into my pants, shoving the cloth down until his tail became an obstacle.

Oso groaned impatiently before completely releasing my body from his tail, ensuring that it slid all the way down my body before pulling away. His hands pulled down my pants even further before returning to grip my buttcheeks, giving them each a massage within his fingers.

"Oso...what you're doing feels really good...!" I cried out as his mouth released my breast, using an arm to press my body flush with his before sealing my lips in a kiss.

"I know...your body is a good teacher," The heat in his words drove my core insane, feeling his tail slide against my panty-covered entrance before I felt something cold rest against it. Realizing that he had moved the thin boundary to the side, I gasped in pleasure before Oso caught my lips again in a deep kiss. His tail rubbed against my now exposed entrance a few times before lifting just a

little

higher, pressing against my second entrance.

"Ah...no, not--" I tried to pull away from the kiss, but Oso overpowered me. A small sense of relief washed over my nerves when I didn't feel him mess

with it other than rubbing his scales against it, suddenly feeling the tip of his tail prod into my core with each grind.

"Are you focused on me, my little (y/n)?" Oso caught my gaze, his red-and-black hues nearly hypnotizing in the sunlight. I could only nod in response, enthralled by what he was doing to me, "Good..."

The purr in his voice set off a spark, pushing me over the edge of an orgasm as his tail plunged into my wet entrance, his pace maddening as I kept riding the orgasmic wave until it crashed, leaving me limp against Oso.

"Oh, my mate...you smell so much sweeter now," Oso's voice was deep as his teeth grazed my shoulder while his tail slowly pulled itself from me, "No wonder you came to me with bruises..."

"Ah...Oso..." His name fell from my lips in a heated moan, my core trembling with excitement. If just his tail sent me into an orgasm already, I couldn't wait to feel what sex with him really felt like, "Please..."

"Hmm...?" He playfully raised an eyebrow as he looked back at my face, "'Please' what, mate?"

"Lock with me," I pressed my hands against his chest, propping myself up and ensuring that he felt my heat against his scales, "I'm yours, completely focused on you."

"Ah...yes, you are," Oso's hands shifted up my back and pulled my head down to his, giving his tail room to wrap a girthy part around my waist before forcing my lower half onto something bulbous, "I'll make you rely on me for the next few days I have you here."

My heart raced with excitement before I felt Oso's length slip inside me, his shaft filling me completely as his tail tightened around my waist before pulling me up and slamming me back down onto him. His hands gripped my breasts tightly, each thumb and forefinger pinching a nipple between them. A smaller length of tail wrapped around my chest and curled around my left breast, squeezing it every so often while Oso forced me to ride him.

His expression showed that the naga was experiencing pure bliss, the look probably mirrored on my own face as I felt more of his tail coil around my legs to keep them on either side of his hips. My hands gripped his wrists tightly as a handhold, knowing that I wasn't the one in control of how fast I was going.

I smothered a cry of shock as his girth suddenly swelled to twice its size inside of my core, Oso reflecting my sound with his own voice before his hands suddenly let my breasts go and slid down to my waist, his tail falling away as his thrusting became rougher. It felt like he was trying to split me right down the middle before I felt his member swell once more, completely locking with me.

"Ah!" Oso cried out as an intense heat spilled into me, his hands still forcing me down onto him as the digits pressed deep into my skin. The tempo didn't slow, instead picking up as another wave of heat crashed into me and sending my senses into overdrive. Another orgasm forced me over the edge while more of Oso's seed poured into me, the pace never dropping as I felt the warmth leak down my legs.

It was all I could do to prop myself up against his chest as Oso's fingers dug into my waist, slamming me down onto his shaft over and over as our orgasms fed the other's, building until Oso couldn't manage anymore. With a final, harsh thrust, Oso poured one last load into my overwhelmed womb before letting his hands drop down to the ground, panting harshly as I limply fell onto his chest.

The paste that I had previously applied stayed on, despite the sweat from both of us creating a sheen on both his upper scales and skin.

It felt like a long time before Oso spoke into the panting silence between us.

"(Y/n)...if I had known that mating with you felt like that..." He gently brushed the back of an index finger against my cheek, "You would probably hate me forever, because I would've just taken you on sight."

I laughed a little, raising my head up to look at his flushed face, "Yeah...I would've hated you forever. That's a serious crime where I'm from...but if I

knew that being with you felt like this at that time...hell, I'd probably enjoy it while I couldn't think."

Oso's lips pulled back into a smile, "I wasn't too much for you, was it?"

"What do you mean?" I felt his thumb caress the skin under my left eye, pulling away to reveal a tear, "Oh...no, not at all. It all felt...really good and intense. I'm definitely not going to forget it."

A familiar heated look flooded in his eyes as his tail shifted up my legs, "I'll force you to keep remembering it when you're near me."

A heated whine rumbled in my throat as he kissed me passionately, the tip of his tail sliding against my overstimulated entrance as his hands reached for my breasts once more.

Choro

My brow furrowed in irritation as I lifted up the torn shirt to fully inspect the damage done to it. The green colored fabric dangled uselessly in my hands as a soft breeze blew through the jungle around me, my ears picking up the quiet sounds of someone approaching me from my right.

"I brought the things you asked for," Choro moved closer to me before offering what was held in his hands, my focus switching from the shirt that Oso ruined to the travel-sized sewing kit.

"I'm not sure what I'll be able to do with this, but I know it still has its uses," I gave the green mamba naga a grateful smile as I took the sewing kit, lowering the shirt onto my lap and feeling him curl up against me, "Probably a bag or something..."

"So...he was really rough with you, huh?"

"Uh-huh," I fought down a furious blush as I nodded, remembering that I wasn't able to walk on my own for two days after I was intimate with the red-headed krait, making good on his promise that I had to rely on him, "If you're all that rough, then I'll probably break before I'm able to mate with everyone."

"Well, you started with the two brothers that absolutely adore you," Choro laughed, his hands reaching up and starting to run through my hair, "Whenever you want to mate with me, I'll do my best to be gentler than them."

"Did they...tell everyone what happened, or are you guys just picking up on their scents?" I looked at Choro, meeting his dark green eyes.

"Eh..." He glanced off to something in the distance before meeting my eyes again, "Kinda both? For Oso, it seemed more like a bragging right, while Jyushi was just excited."

I hummed to myself, focusing on the torn shirt and settling for making a sling bag. As I started cutting up the fabric into strips while leaving the back panel untouched, Choro adjusted his coils against me and settled into a more relaxed position.

We sat in comfortable silence for a long while before Choro took a deep breath.

"I was scared...when I heard the helicopter fly over my territory."

"I probably didn't make things much better," My fingers paused their sewing, setting the small project back down on my lap and focusing on the naga, "When I realized that they were after me...I panicked and called for you all since I didn't know where anyone was."

"Oso was able to do what all of us wanted to do, and Jyushi had begged him to take care of some of the invaders," Choro shifted to lay on his back, looking up at the sky through the canopy, "To be honest, I felt horrible that I wasn't able to do anything other than warn Oso about it. I was too close to the shoreline when I heard the flying thing pass overhead."

I gently lay a hand on his right arm, his hand quickly reaching up and intertwining with mine, "I know that if there was more than any of you could do, then you would've done it. What worries me the most is that Calmine had contacted some kind of mercenary group, instead of a smaller band of hunters like before."

"Why does that worry you?" His eyes glanced down at me, an eyebrow raising in confusion.

"Because that means two things. One, he

really

wants me back and you all by extension, and two, the madman may still have money to throw around before he's forced to give up," Choro's hand slightly tightened around mine, offering a comforting squeeze.

"We've told you before. The bastard is welcome to try."

I laughed a little before I saw a small dot of wet appear on the cut up shirt strips, drawing my attention to it before I watched another dot appear. Several other drops formed before I felt one land on my exposed arm.

"Ah, damn...small rainstorm coming in," Choro moved into a standing position, his tail gathering underneath him as he released my hand, "Go ahead and get to your den, Ichi says it's a small enough storm that will pass us by."

"All right," I gathered the partially made bag in my hands, careful to avoid pricking myself on the needle, "I'll finish this when I get home. Are you heading to your den, then?"

"I've got a small chore to finish before it gets ruined by the rain," The naga smiled as I started making my way towards my home in his territory, only a light jog from where we were, "If the rainstorm gets any worse, I'll come get you."

"Do they have a tendency to swell?" I felt the raindrops increase, the feeling close to a light shower.

"Not usually, but there's been a time or two the past few moons that the storms grew," Choro offered a smile before turning away, "It shouldn't last that long."

The rain poured down in heavy sheets, obscuring my vision as I tried to constantly wipe away the water streaming down my face. I was completely soaked to the bone, the ground quickly turning into mud underneath my boots as I sloshed through to my home. I hadn't heard anything near me outside of the pouring rain hitting the thick leaves high above me before falling down to the underbrush, creating a near cacophonous noise that drowned out anything else.

Choro had said that he'd find me if the storm got worse, but I felt the small seed of panic grow into a large lump in my throat. If the nagas relied on their sense of smell to find me, then it was possible that the rain would completely hinder their progress.

I pressed on before passing a fallen tree, a large one that had fallen some years ago. Throughout the weeks I've been on the island, I couldn't remember seeing this tree before...which meant I was lost.

Lost on the island at the worst possible time.

Fighting down the lump of panic threatening to climb my throat, I tried to look up towards the canopy trying to find some kind of shelter where I could hunker down to wait out the storm. The rain pounded the area as I carefully made my way around the trees, avoiding walking out onto the open parts of the ground. My previous encounter with the sinkholes in the area had warned me that falling down into one during a rainstorm would probably kill me.

"Choro!" I yelled out as loudly as I could, cupping my free hand around my mouth, "Choro--!"

If there was a response, I couldn't hear it.

Clearing my vision again, I slowly made my way towards an area that looked to have the thickest canopy, the rain lessening only a little as I took shelter underneath a splintered limb of a tree that was extremely close to the ground. Curling up with my knees tucked under my chin, I let go of my little DIY project and wrapped both arms around my legs as I tried to insulate as much warmth as I could.

The rain was relentless as it continued to pour down, thunder rumbling across the sky as lightning danced within the dark clouds that were as dark as night. The flashes were enough to illuminate the surrounding area, and I lost count of how many times I found myself falling asleep from either exhaustion or exposure. Fearful of never waking up again, I grabbed the sewing needle from the kit and pressed it against my forearm.

The movement was quick and the pain was sudden, sudden enough to make adrenaline surge through my system as the needlepoint was dragged across my skin, tearing open a ragged cut that wasn't deep enough to draw a lot of blood. I sucked in a gasp through my teeth as I let out a cry of pain, hoping that the noise was enough to draw someone's attention to me.

Focusing on the pain, my light shivers grew worse as the storm raged, shuddering as my muscles frantically tried to warm themselves up by rapidly constricting over and over.

"Choro...!" My voice was tense as I called out, thinking I saw something move beyond the bushes. I didn't hear a response over the rain, my eyes closing against my will before I thought I felt something grab my shoulders.

Something snapped near me, my mind waking up after what seemed like a long sleep. I felt the heat before I saw a glow illuminating the area I was in, my eyes staring blankly into a small fire that was being stirred to life as the light cast shadows all around.

There was a soft mutter nearby as I felt whatever I was propped up against shift a little, my hair being brushed out of my face before I looked up at who was doing it, my colored hues meeting a soft dark green gaze.

"You're awake," Choro pulled his hand away, the usual pointed smile resting on his lips as he shifted to look at me from the front instead of overhead, "Do you need to get closer to the fire?"

"...fire...?" I looked just beyond him to see the small fire that I stared at earlier, "Oh...yeah, I'm still cold..."

"All right," He carefully picked me up and moved me slightly closer to the fire, offering the thickest part of his tail as something for me to lean against again, "Better?"

"Mm-hmm," My head barely nodded, rubbing my hands against my bare arms. I blinked in confusion, knowing that I had been wearing a shirt that

had longer sleeves earlier, lifting my arms up to see that they were completely bare. My shoulders were also exposed to the elements as a thick blanket of dense leaves rested over the rest of my body, a light blush rising in my cheeks as I glanced around the walls of the place.

I instantly recognized my home in Choro's territory, my damp clothes hanging on thin branches that were meant to dry off washed laundry fashioned into a type of racking system. The dirty bra and faded underwear stood out from the shirt and shorts.

"You were getting colder with those on," Choro caught on to what I was looking at, "I removed them as carefully as I could and wrapped you up in your covering before setting them to dry...I hope that's okay."

"No, what you did was right," I quickly answered, looking over to the naga and seeing a light blush spreading on his cheeks, "It's just..."

"(Y/n), it's all right," He waved both hands in front of his face, shaking his head a little, "I promise that I didn't do anything more than that. We didn't lock, and nothing else happened other than me starting the fire."

"I wasn't worried about you doing anything to me, Choro," I laughed a little at his surprising reaction, "It's just...embarrassing for me to not wear my clothes around you..."

"If I left them on...I was worried that you wouldn't have woken up," He slowly lowered his hands, a sad expression falling over his face, "I know that you've always been warm or hot to the touch, so when I felt that your skin was as cold as ours...I did the only thing I could think of and brought you back here, out of the storm and next to what you use for heat."

"Oh, Choro..." I held out a hand towards him, his own hand reaching out and holding it gently in his grip, "You're wonderful..."

"I'm sure any of my brothers would've stayed with you when the storm hit," I could feel his fingers tremble against mine, "Made sure that you were safe...Instead, I left you alone and found you clinging to yourself for warmth."

"But you still found me."

My words took him by surprise, his mouth opening and closing like he was trying to find the right words to respond with.

"I did," His grip tightened on my hand slightly, a ripple rolling through his tail as he helped me sit up a little more against him.

The fire was warm as the flames ate away at the dry wood I had stored inside the shelter, the shivers slowly dying down as my body adjusted to the new ambient temperature. My hands held the blanket of leaves around me as I felt Choro lay down on his chest, his tail still offering support.

"Choro...I'll be honest," I spoke quietly, catching his dark green gaze out of the corner of my eye, "I had thought that when the big helicopter left the island is when you guys would've been all over me, trying to claim me and fighting with each other...like monsters that couldn't control themselves."

Choro stayed quiet as I took a breath, his face not shifting from its neutral expression while I spoke.

"It's not something that you all would do, I know this now...but in America, there were a lot of books written about monsters breeding with humans and how every author thought it would be a different kind of scenario. The more popular situation that's written about happens when there's a woman and a few monsters interested in being with her, but they all don't get along. It's nonsensical, yes, but it's still written about because a lot of women liked to be fought over...whether they voice that guilty pleasure or not. They

want

to be wanted by multiple men, to become the object of a man's desire."

I shook my head a little in disagreement to no one, "I'll admit that I liked reading those books and novels...but I was terrified when I found myself in that same situation back at the zoo. How would I manage to get you all to coordinate within our relationships? What boundaries would I need to set in order to not be...constantly mating?"

The green mamba naga shifted his position to look at me more easily, taking in the information that I was telling him. He rested his head on his right hand, propped up by his elbow while letting his entire right arm curl against his bare chest.

"I hadn't really given either of those questions any thought because we were always around other humans, both at the zoo and in the helicopter. So when the friendly craft took off, I realized that I didn't have any answers."

"You...still thought of us as 'monsters'?"

"No!" I quickly raised both hands and waved them in a negative motion, "Absolutely not! I've never had that label cross my mind about you and your brothers...but--" I slowly lowered my hands to the edge of the blanket, clinging it close to my body again, "--I was scared that you'd suddenly turn into one, only held back by the mental barrier of being around other humans."

Choro's left hand caught my right hand before I could fully lower it, his thumb rubbing my palm, "(Y/n), we've never hidden how we act from you. Yes, there are aspects of us that we didn't want to frighten you, but I've always acted like myself...just like Oso was always cunning and Jyushi was strong when protecting you. They're territorial assholes that know you're your own person, and they know that if they tried to restrain you by their side, you'd have an absolute fit over it."

His hand shifted up until our fingers intertwined, "Ever since you tried to free me from the small cage, I've felt nothing but respect and admiration for you. You tried to break me out, even when you didn't have the tools to do so. Seeing you lying limp in the cage was heartbreaking...and I definitely earned some scars from when they tried to take you out before I was put to sleep again. I felt so happy and elated when I noticed you walking underneath my perch, seeing that you were alive and well despite the bandage on your arm. I...was worried that my actions and responses while in shed had ruined the small bit of kinship we had..."

"We talked that whole circumstance through, remember?" I adjusted my sitting position while holding his hand, "Yeah, it sucked that it happened,

but it wasn't your fault at all."

"May I ask a question?" Choro closed his eyes as he let his other hand lower to the ground, resting his head over his arm.

"Go ahead."

"Did mating with Jyushi and Oso please you as much as it pleased them?"

My face burned like a thousand suns, the tips of my ears and cheeks starting to hurt from the intense rush of blood to my face.

"Ah...probably?" I shook my head before clarifying, "What I mean is that I don't know exactly how they felt about it, but they both had...uh...continued until I was completely weak in their hands. As to how I felt about it, I can definitely say that sex with Oso was much more intense than anything else I had experienced up until that point, and Jyushi was more explorative and cautious about the whole thing."

"Then, you enjoyed both?"

"Yes...? I don't want to sound like I'm picking favorites already, so I'll say that I now know who I can go to when I'm in certain moods," I laughed a little before I felt Choro lightly press his lips against mine, squashing a surprised noise as I returned the kiss.

"Then I'll make sure that I offer a different experience," His breath danced on my lips before kissing me, his mouth gentle on mine. Choro had shifted his posture while I was talking, an arm behind my shoulders that slowly lowered me to the bare ground as his tail completely moved away from me. The blanket was the only thing between us, but he seemed to be treating it like it was a wall.

His chaste kisses were brief and light before he was sure that I was laying flat on the ground, his lips pressing just a little bit harder while the duration grew longer. His hands rested on my upper arms, never travelling further than the blanket allowed, and I felt my body begin to demand that he touched me

more

.

"Choro..." I whined before he locked lips with me, a hum rolling through his throat before he pulled away to look me in the eyes, "Please...do more."

The green naga lowered his head without a verbal response, kissing me once more on the lips before leaving a light trail down my cheek and resting against my neck. My breathing quickened as I felt his forked tongue caress my sensitive skin, his hands slowly testing my grip on the blanket before dragging it down just enough to cover my breasts.

A deep kiss was placed on the curve between my neck and right shoulder, his hands refusing to budge from their new position near my elbows.

I let out a breathy moan as a thought wormed its way into my head: Choro was going to be gentle, while the others had roughed me up. It was his way of being memorable to me.

"Please, Choro..." I urged him to keep going, feeling the blanket lower further as a response while his head lowered down to my chest. The trail of kisses continued until his tongue swiped across my right nipple, my back arching up and pressing my breast up to his face as a heated moan passed my lips. Choro's hands rested against my hips, the blanket now shoved just underneath my waist line.

He gave careful attention to every little curve and bump on my breasts, his tongue acting like his fingers and maneuvering the lumps around to where he wanted them. Part of me wondered how the nagas knew what parts of my body to go for, but most of me really didn't give a care at this moment.

His gentleness felt agonizingly good, and I wanted more of it.

As if responding to my thoughts, Choro guided my right breast into his mouth, the flexible tongue curling around the erect nipple and squeezing a little as he dragged his smaller teeth lightly across the skin. I cried out in pleasure as my back arched more, confused and frustrated by the slow pace

that the third naga was going at. His hands slipped underneath me, using the void between the small of my back and the floor of the shelter. One hand travelled up my spine and lifted me off the ground while the other rested just above my buttocks.

Choro sat up with me pressed against his chest, my arms draped over his shoulders as he continued to suckle at my right breast before releasing his hold on it, switching to the left breast as the hand near my butt

finally

dropped to caress a cheek. The movement drew a cry from my throat as I realized my new position had me straddling his hips, my knees brushing against the ground as the blanket now lay discarded and safely away from the fire, the heat of the little thing curling up my back.

"Ah...Choro, this feels wonderful and maddening...!" I ran my hands through his green hair, catching his dark green hues as he looked up at me.

"Then you want more?"

"Yes--!" I barely got the word out before I felt something hard rub against my core, stars bursting in my eyes from the brief contact. When I expected him to plunge into me, Choro lifted me up so I wasn't touching his shaft anymore, drawing a pitiful whine from me.

"You said that you just wanted more, not

everything

," Choro teased with a laugh, bringing my head down for another deep kiss, "Would my little (y/n) want everything?"

I furiously nodded before he huffed with a smile, kissing me again as my position shifted, the naga laying me underneath him before breaking off the kiss. He kissed a line from my mouth to my belly button, my entrance starting to throb with excitement as I realized what he was doing. My

breathing picked up as his head settled between my legs, feeling his breath caress my trembling entrance.

Without another word, Choro leaned in closer and pressed his lips to my second pair, a heated cry echoing from my mouth as I felt something cautiously tease inside me. It explored every little crevice that I had before pushing in further, drawing out a gasp as I could feel it twist around inside my womb. I pressed my head into the ground before I realized that Choro had lay in a way that allowed me to reach his hips.

Emerging from a well hidden slit was a semi-throbbing shaft of flesh and scales, the tip glistening in the fire's light as the shape was more human than I originally thought. A thought crossed my mind and I acted on it, gently reaching out and taking Choro's member into my hands as I twisted over to it.

He immediately reacted to my touch, his hands gripping my thighs a little tighter as I licked the length, opening my mouth and pushing the tip in between my lips. Choro was a lot larger than I thought possible, wondering if the others were the same size and how the hell Oso and Jyushi fit into me without tearing anything.

Using my hands to rub what I couldn't get with my mouth, I moaned onto his member when I felt Choro become a little more intense, his tongue curling around my clit while his teeth caught my sensitive mound.

He pulled away first, quickly reaching down and catching my wrists in his hands, "Ah...do that too much and I'll lose control..."

"It's okay, Choro," I whimpered as he pulled himself away from me, "You don't need to restrain yourself around me."

"Not a chance," He laughed as he leaned over me, his hips resting between my legs, "I know I can be rough with you, but something tells me that you'd prefer it this way."

"Oh...? Then show me," I gave him a smile before I felt him push against me, his member easily sliding in as I cried out in pleased surprise.

"Don't worry..." Choro rested his chest on top of me and pressed in further, smiling as the movement drew a heated moan from me, "...I plan on doing just that."

His arms wrapped underneath my back and around my shoulders, his lips locked with mine as he switched to the softer kisses that timed with his intensely slow thrusting. Each move he made was methodical, sending wave after wave of pleasure into my head as we kissed. I lifted my legs up and around his waist, feeling his length plunge deeper into me at the same rate.

Choro groaned into the kiss as his hips rolled into mine, pressing me into the ground with each roll of his spine.

"Oh, (y/n), you feel so good..." He breathed between kisses, his tongue wrapping around mine as he continued his slow assault against my womb, not moving faster but somehow the connection becoming more intense with each passing moment. I cried out in satisfaction each time Choro pushed inside me, and I was left wanting more every time he partially pulled out.

"Choro...!" My voice caught in my throat as I felt his member swell in size; not nearly as large as Oso, but still enough to catch me off-guard with the timing as he continued kissing me. My back was firmly pressed into the dirt as Choro picked up the pace finally, if only a little bit.

Our hips met with a wet 'slap' each time he plowed into me, drawing a fulfilled moan from my throat as I writhed underneath him, the very familiar wave of an orgasm swelling before sweeping over my mind.

It was only then that Choro suddenly picked up the pace, slamming into me much faster than before and leaving me breathless as my orgasm built up with the new pace, the first one bleeding into the second and third. He shifted his grip on my body, sliding both hands down to my thighs and holding them fast, ensuring that there were no gaps between us even as he continued pounding my sore and excited entrance. His member swelled once more inside me as he cried out into the deep kiss, a warmth spreading over my womb before it was coated with another layer of heat.

Another thrust sent a second wave of heat into me before Choro pulled from the kiss, his face red and covered in sweat as his dark green eyes regarded my own face, probably matching his in color and amount of sweat. He leaned back down and placed a light kiss on my lips, pulling out of me in the same motion before moving away, laying the blanket over my body before he retreated towards a far wall.

"Choro...?" I didn't drag the blanket around me as I sat up, fighting through the orgasmic spasms still working through my system, "Hey...what's wrong...?"

"Your scent..." Choro didn't even turn to face me, hiding his entire front from me, "It's getting stronger, and I want to keep going."

"Is it my heat?" I refrained from crawling over to him, unsure if my body was going through ovulation again. I hadn't had a period since I landed on the island, so I could only guess that it counted as an 'invisible period'. It was rare when it happened, but it still happened.

"No...it's not that," He barely looked over his shoulder towards me, "I want to keep going, but I want to give you a break."

My heart thudded heavily in my chest before I crawled over to him, seeing his left hand gripped around his member tightly like he was trying to choke the arousal out of it. I carefully lay my left hand on his, slipping underneath his grip as he closed his eyes at the touch and leaning in to kiss him.

He responded with another long, chaste kiss.

"Choro, I'm here with you for the next three days," I moved closer, giving him a tender kiss while leaving the blanket behind on the ground, "I'm your mate, so please...don't hold back if you want to lock more."

Choro looked at me, his dark green hues searching my own colored gaze for some form of answer before smiling, "Then I better back the most of our time together."

His hands rested my head between them, pulling me down with him as he lay down on the ground, my left hand still giving his member attention.

Todo

"Move it...here," Todo motioned towards a small clearing with his hand.

"Todo," I stared at him, an emotionless expression resting on my face.

"You

should

be able to do it," He looked back towards me, a small smirk on his lips.

"Todo."

"What."

I pointed towards the fallen tree that he had been wanting me to move, the thing as wide as I was tall, "I can't move this."

"Pfft, again?" Todo rolled his eyes, "It's lighter than the rock."

"Oh, is it now?" My eyes widened in exasperation, staring at the youngest naga, "Well, I'm sorry that I can't lift anything that weighs more than my bodyweight."

"Fine, I'll do it," He rolled his eyes again as he moved past me, settling himself next to the fallen tree and bending down, "I honestly don't see the point of you offering your help if you can't do anything."

Without effort, Todo hooked his hands underneath the rotting bark and lifted the entire tree up, moving it towards the clearing before carefully angling it how he wanted. I watched in amazement as he angled it where he wanted, the tree nearly seven meters in length and just about one-and-three-quarter meters in width. When the tree was where he wanted it, Todo loosened his grip and let it fall to the ground.

"Do you just not like doing things yourself?"

He snapped his dark copper gaze over to me, locking eyes and moving back towards me, "It's not a matter of me 'liking' to do things myself. You swore yourself to me back in that cage, so what I'm wondering is why you did it when you're this useless at physical demands."

My brow furrowed in frustration, a corner of my lip pulling back in a snarl, "Listen here, young man! I may have made that promise to you, but that doesn't give you free reign to rule over me like some kind of 'holier-than-thou' god. If you're willing to

ask

me what I can do instead of guessing at the limits of my capabilities, I'd be more than willing to help you out -- but you keep throwing these

ridiculous

'chores' at me that I know I'm not able to complete. The only reason why I could move the stuff back at the zoo was because they were designed to be moved by a human.

"I thought we had already talked about this, but since you can't seem to get it through your thick skull, allow me to repeat myself," I shoved my index finger towards the fallen tree he had just moved, "I

can't

move anything that weighs more than me in a best case scenario!"

Todo's nostrils flared as he sucked in a breath, his eyes widening while his black pupils constricted, rearing back before turning around and quickly leaving, "Fine! Then I'll come find you when I need something done that a

puny human

can do!"

I fought to even my breathing, knowing that what I had said, while true, was

definitely

not needed at the moment.

Slowly, the sounds around me began to grab my attention, barely louder than the silence that filled the area. Daytime bugs were out and about while larger life continued on its way in the canopy, passing me by while I stood still in the small clearing.

I took in a breath and started to look around for the familiar marks I had made that pointed the way towards my home in Todo's territory, knowing that it was almost south of where I currently was. I had to give Todo space before I could talk to him again, fully knowing that I was the one at fault for this yelling match.

Todo's expression soured as he crashed through the waterways near his den, diving into a large stretch of water and sinking down to the bottom, rolling in the grasses to rub off the muck that still clung to him from the thick bog that he forged through. Taking enough time to ensure that every scale was clean, he ran his fingers through his hair roughly, pulling at the clumps of algae and tossing them away from him.

Let the human have her outbursts; he'd make sure that she paid for them later on.

Releasing the breath he was holding, Todo emerged from the waterway and climbed onto a piece of firm land, rubbing his back along the grass before laying still and staring up at the sky. He couldn't understand why (y/n) was so weak, or why she became so enraged when he asked for her to do extremely simple tasks. Todo knew that he was the weakest of his brothers in regards to strength, so how weak were humans compared to

him

?

'Is (y/n) with anyone?'

Todo's eye twitched in annoyance as he turned over to his right side, shutting his eyes tight as he sent back a reply,

'No.'

'She's not by me,'

Kara's scent floated lightly on the breeze, responding to the original question,

'If she's not by anyone, then who was with her last?'

'Me,'

Todo violently sent out, failing to restrain his frustration. Whenever his brothers asked him anything anymore, it was always about (y/n). (Y/n) the mate some of them already shared, (y/n) the weak human that couldn't do anything on her own without intervention, (y/n) the frustrating

bitch

that was unreasonably difficult to understand.

'There's no flying things that passed, was there?'

Oso's agitation was palpable, hitting Todo's senses like a falling tree.

'None,'

Choro responded, his calm soothing the youngest's senses after the lashing the eldest gave,

'Todo, try and track her down. If she's in your territory, there are plenty of things that can hurt or kill her.'

'Please, she's not

that

weak. The human can handle herself,'

Todo curled up tighter on his side, refusing to budge.

'Do it!'

The anger from the three oldest brothers crashed over Todo like a cold ocean wave, shocking him into an alert position as Choro continued,

'She's relying on us to stay alive here! If you abandon her like some useless object, then she'll lose her life.'

'She's not some weak, pitiful creature that needs us coddling her!'

'(Y/n) is trusting you, Todo,'

Kara's scent was calm, but the undertone was dark,

'Don't let that be her last mistake.'

Todo growled, partially relaxing from his stance as his tongue flicked out, "It was a mistake for her to be here..."

The young naga leered close to the ground near the fallen tree that he had moved into place, picking up the faint scent trail that (y/n) left behind. She had taken off in the direction of her den, moving towards Kara's territory. He could still taste the anger in the air from their disagreement as he followed the trail, the anger slowly dissolving into regret and sorrow. A light smirk pulled at his lips, satisfaction rising in his gut as (y/n) acknowledged that she was the one at fault.

The scent trail grew a little stronger as the sorrow turned into confusion and fear, her path suddenly turning from her den to veer towards the shoreline. Todo raised an eyebrow at the sudden movement, smelling the air to see if

there was anything that warranted the sudden change in direction. Nothing tugged at his senses, letting confusion settle in his gut.

Carefully moving alongside (y/n)'s scent trail, his eyes widened in fear as he knew the direction that she was heading in, picking up speed to try and catch up with her. The bog that rested along the shoreline closest to her den was a dangerous area, and the naga could only hope that she wasn't too far in before she realized where she was.

Todo panted as he lay a hand against one of the wide tree trunks that sprouted out of the bog, an endless watery surface stretching out towards the ocean as the grass underneath his scales hid the soft earth that was more than willing to swallow an animal alive. He had seen her bootprints step right into the bog, the fear and confusion in the air so thick that he could literally taste it. (Y/n) must've thought she was going the wrong way and veered off, wandering off the correct path without realizing it.

"(Y/n)!" Todo called out, turning to look all around him. His heart thudded heavily in his chest as worry grew like a fertile seed in his gut, "(Y/n), don't move!"

While his tail was able to flatten and give him a bit of buoyancy on the water, the human couldn't do that with her feet, forcing her to step into the dangerous water and onto the soft ground.

Todo had scoffed at the thought of (y/n) falling into a hole in Choro's territory, never thinking that she'd wander into the only place in Todo's territory that was more dangerous than the border between Choro's and Jyushi's territories.

His tongue flicked out again, picking up the overwhelming of fear before his dark copper hues locked onto a branch snapped off, low over the water's surface. His hands pushed down into the soft ground underneath the branch, quickly coming into contact with rocks that were just under the surface. Recoiling and shaking his hands, Todo closely examined the broken branch before stilling as a sound reached his ears: a low, rumbling hiss that sounded not too far off.

The young naga narrowed in on where the sound came from, swiftly pushing through the water and laying low as he crawled onto a large clot of dry land, a few trees keeping this place from being washed away in the slow current within the bog. Todo peered around one of the trees to see a large wild cat sniff the ground near the middle of the embankment, another growl emitting from its throat as it moved closer to something it was interested in.

Todo saw the outstretched hand partially holding onto the other part of the broken branch before he saw the drenched and exhausted form of (y/n), laying limply on dry ground like she had collapsed there. The large wild cat flicked its ear towards him, looking over and hissing loudly, baring its fangs as a threat to him. Todo responded in kind, expelling the air in his massive lungs through his tightened vocal cords, bringing his own teeth to bare as he raised himself up.

The wild cat made a move to lunge towards (y/n), possibly hoping to grab its prey and escape, but Todo quickly rushed over and put himself between the wild cat and (y/n), his tail coiling over her body as he hissed again. The wild cat swung a paw at him before he snapped his jaws shut, the sound sending the predator away in defeat. He caught his breath in the silence, immediately moving his tail off of (y/n) and looking over her body to see if there was any damage.

She was completely soaked through, showing that she had fallen into the bog at some point, and the mud still staining the lower half of her shirt and pants revealed that she had been sucked down into the hidden danger under the water. Todo gently took her outstretched hand and lifted her up into his arms, his right hand tracing over her sleeping face.

'I found her. Taking her back to her den.'

'Is she all right?'

Choro's worry floated in the air.

'She's still alive,'

Todo's dark copper eyes took in her appearance, making mental notes to grab some things from her den before leaving her near the clear water creek that ran nearby. She'd more than likely want to wash off before doing anything else.

"...needs this and this...but probably not that."

I stirred from my sleep as I heard someone muttering nearby, slowly opening my eyes to see something moving in the darkness of my home, looking in through the front entrance from a distance. Glancing around, I realized that I was positioned to lay on some flat patches of dirt, the familiar trickle of water behind me as I looked to see the small creek that Todo had ensured was safe for me to bathe in.

"You're awake...!" The voice drew my attention back to my home, a look of relief settling on his face as I recognized Todo. He seemed to remember something, the relief giving way to a look of tempered anger, "You really are an idiot, huh?"

"Excuse me?" I sat up, feeling some kind of slimy texture on my legs as I moved, looking down to see that I was nearly covered with mud from head to toe.

"You were heading to your den before you doubted yourself, heading towards the bog," He threw down the armful of fabric at my feet, "You humans are pretty stupid when you think you're lost."

"I thought I

was

lost, Todo," I gathered what he had dropped, finding the handmade shampoo mixture and soap bar within the fabric that turned out to be some of my clothes, "I walked off in a heated state and didn't know where I was. I'm sorry that I caused you trouble."

"You're

always

causing trouble," Todo huffed in distaste as he crossed his arms over his chest, the end of his tail rapidly vibrated in anger, "Why do you always think it's the best thing to go off on your own? You've been in more trouble in the last half-moon than we've been in our entire lives!"

"You think I

want

to cause you guys trouble?" I stood up, my arms tightening around the clothing bundle, "I don't mean to get into positions where you all need to save me, okay? I just thought that--"

"Then that's your problem," Todo pointed a finger at my face, nearly touching my nose before pulling away, "You think way too much when the easiest answer is staring you in the face. We know our territories inside and out, but you think that everything will just somehow work out for you! How many times have we told you to 'stay put' but you go off on your own anyway?"

I recoiled from his words, opening my mouth to defend myself before he interjected.

"More than twice!" He held up his index and middle finger, "Which is much more than I thought it'd take to force you to learn that humans don't belong here! This isn't some place where you'd be safe from everything, (y/n), and everything that lives here isn't like us!"

His forked tongue flicked in and out before he growled in anger, throwing his hands up in the air before moving away from me. Todo's brow furrowed as he glanced back towards me, "Go clean up. I won't watch, and will take you to Kara when you're finished."

"What? Why?" I raised an eyebrow in confusion, knowing that I still had one more planned day of staying in his territory, "If this is about the fight, then let me apologize before you kick me out."

"They don't seem to think that you're safe in my territory," Todo refused to look back at me, pointing towards the creek, "Go. Clean. Now."

"Then it's about your brothers," I set down the bundle in my arms on a rock wide enough to keep everything off the ground, looking towards Todo as he settled with his back facing me, "I know you're young...but why don't they trust you?"

"Ask them yourself."

"They're not here, you are."

"I don't know," The response was faster than my quip, practically cutting me off.

I withheld a reply before I started to undress, knowing that picking another verbal fight with Todo wasn't the best idea right now...not when we were both heated from the previous 'talk'. Peeling off the dirtied clothes and boots, I set them aside as I glanced back at the young naga staring off into the marshes, taking a chance to fully undress before I jumped into the creek where there was a deep part.

Scrubbing at my skin with my fingernails, I surfaced and washed out my hair before climbing onto the bank with my bathing supplies, my back facing Todo.

An uncomfortable silence filled the space between us as I poured out some of the shampoo and massaged it into my hair, creating a light lather.

"I'm sorry."

I stilled, glancing behind me to see Todo still standing in his original position, unsure which one of us said it.

"You were right. I don't understand how humans can be so weak, and I tried to push you to do what I knew I could do without asking," His shoulders dropped a little, "I broke my word to you, and I know that what happened could've been completely avoided if I had managed to keep my head."

I lowered my eyes for a moment, taking in his apology before opening my mouth, "I'm sorry, too, Todo. I didn't mean to say what I did, and I know there's no way I can take back the words that hurt you."

Taking the soap in my hands, I rubbed it against my skin, "I don't blame you for anything that happened today, so don't worry about that. Everything could've been avoided if I didn't let my anger get the better of me."

I paused in my scrubbing, focusing on the fading scar on my hand from the cut I gave myself.

"I'm a stubborn human that needs to be taken care of and, despite knowing that, I still act like I'm invincible here. Far removed from society, I need to rely on you and your brothers for help...and that's a foreign concept for me. I've done everything on my own until now: paying my way through college, living on my own and fending off people that think they know better than me. So, to be put into a situation that I know nothing about...it's difficult for me to let myself be vulnerable."

I felt heat rise to my cheeks as a thought bloomed in my head, "So...let me start with you."

"In regards to...?"

"Relying on you for help," I held out the soap with my left hand, holding it as far back as I could without turning around, "Could you...wash my back for me?"

"If that's what you want," Withholding a breath, I heard Todo move around somewhere behind me, his fingers lightly brushing against my palm as he took the handmade bar of soap, "You just want me to clean your back, right?"

"Yes..." I confirmed as confidently as I could, hearing him rub the bar between his hands before placing the bar against my skin. Feeling one of his cold hands lay itself on my back alongside the bar of soap, I held my arms over my breasts to ensure that there was no accidental peeking.

"You're wanting something to happen," Todo was quiet, his hands working the soap into my skin for a while now, starting near my shoulders before slowly lowering to my waist and back up again.

"Possibly," I confessed, mentally sighing as I had a feeling he'd pick up on it.

"You don't need to be secretive about it, (y/n)," He pulled his hands away, setting the bar soap down next to me.

"I feel really embarrassed to say it out loud, so I guess I was just...kinda hoping it would just happen."

"Is mating really that embarrassing for you?" Todo's voice was a little further away.

"Not in the moment, but I..." I let my hands fall into the water that caressed my hips and knees, "I've never had enough confidence to state it to anyone, human or naga."

"We're not human and not familiar with human customs in regards to mating. We also don't know much about naga mating, since there's no female here..." He sighed, "It's mainly our instincts that do a lot of the work, since it seems to be so ingrained in our minds. We follow what your scent is projecting, responding with physical actions and acting with what is told to us. It's...similar to a dance that we somehow know, but have never performed before."

"That sounds similar to how humans have sex," I muttered, "It's something that most humans know how to do, but that's only the basics. It can be improved based on what the person likes, so...the train of thought is 'the more you have sex, the more you know what you want'."

"But why not just say that you want it to happen?"

I clenched my teeth in frustration, "Because it's embarrassing!"

"Yet you still asked me to wash your back," Todo caught my eye from the side of my vision, turning my focus towards him, "It's quite a confusing signal you're projecting."

"Todo, I want to mate with you," I met his gaze, my eyes almost challenging him as a look of surprise fell over his face.

Silence fell between us before he turned away.

"You're right, that is a bit awkward."

I shook my head as I looked away, rolling my eyes. The sound of scales sliding across the ground caught my attention before I spotted Todo's hand reaching down for the soap again.

"Let's try this again..." I could feel his breath on the back of my neck, my heart pounding in my chest as I felt his lathered hands press against my skin, rubbing in light circles while following the pattern from before.

I took in a shuddering breath as his hands slowly worked their way down to my hips, feeling his fingers tease over my sides before moving up to rest on my belly. Todo's chin rested in the crook of my left shoulder and neck, his chest pressing into my soapy back.

"Todo...?" Before I could ask what he was doing, he shifted his waist further onto me, causing both of us to fall into the creek. I let out a cry of surprise, feeling his hands release me and allowing me to surface. The soap and shampoo rinsed themselves off of my body, my hands running through my hair a few times to ensure everything was off before looking around for Todo. He breached the surface with a laugh, a wide smile I'd never seen before resting on his lips as he looked over at me.

"Sorry, (y/n). Felt like having a little fun," He pulled himself up back onto the shore, taking my outstretched hand and lifting me up to him. My back

was against his chest once more as his arms wrapped around my waist.

"Well, I guess that's okay," I laughed a little before feeling one of his hands dip down towards my core, sucking in a shocked gasp as his lips connected with the side of my neck.

"Now, we can have fun," He muttered against my skin before kissing it again, the sensation sparking across my nerves as his left arm lifted up my left breast, his hand grabbing the right one gently. His right hand travelled a little lower, some of his fingers brushing against the clitoris before slightly spreading my core open.

With my arms pinned to my sides, I could only take what he was dealing out, crying out in heated moans as his right fingers explored my nethers while his left hand began to fondle my breast. Todo kissed his way from my neck to my lips, my head turning towards him as he kissed me from behind. I cried out into the kiss as his fingers dipped inside of me, quickly pulling out before diving back in.

"You just want me to keep doing this?" Todo released my lips, his tongue swiping across my neck.

"Yes...please...!" My face flushed at the intensity of what he was doing, gasping when he pinched the nipple gently between his thumb and forefinger.

"

Just

this?" A length of tail coiled around my waist before lazily looping around my left leg, maneuvering it further from my right leg as he spread them wide, "

This

is all you'll be satisfied with?"

"Aahhh--!" My mind went blank as I felt his fingers go deeper before pulling out, "No...I want more!"

"Oh, a greedy human, huh?" He hummed before kissing me again, "Such a greedy mate. You've had three already, and you still want more?"

"I want

you

, Todo!" I pushed back against his chest, catching his lips and freeing my right hand, raising it and holding his head close to mine so he couldn't pull away. Todo hummed against the kiss, pulling his right fingers out of me and lifting me up closer to him, his right hand taking my left breast before I felt a large object rub against my opening.

"You're definitely a greedy mate, but you'll have to work for it," Todo somehow broke the kiss, continuing to rub against my heated core as his hands groped at my chest. I reached down with both hands to brush against the throbbing member between my legs, my fingertips lightly touching the head before it flexed against me.

Todo kept up the rocking motion against me as I cupped both hands around his upper shaft and head, my thumb rubbing the very tip of the head as he thrust against me. He moaned into my neck, his lips hot against my skin as his hands reminded me they were still there.

His fingers squeezed and pulled at my erect nipples, holding me close to his chest as he thrusted into my hands. Todo was just a little bigger than Choro in length, the scales emerging on the back of his member before giving way to the skin, and I tightened my hands around his length a little, drawing a pleased groan from the naga.

Another length of tail wrapped around my right calf and spread my legs wider before Todo pulled himself from my hands, shifting his waist down and thrusting up in nearly the same motion, piercing my core while pulling at my nipples.

"Ahh! Todo--!" I cried his name in heated moans as he completely sheathed himself in me, pushing me down on his full length and forcing me to sit there. With him in complete control of my legs and waist, I could only wait in agonizing pleasure until he felt like moving me, protesting with mewls and cries.

"You're not allowed to think of the others while you're mating with me, (y/n)," Todo's voice was dark, his breath against my neck before giving it another kiss, "Do you understand, serf?"

"Yes, Todo...I'm sorry," I whined out as he refused to move anything, "Please forgive me."

"Good..." He kissed me on the lips, his tongue darting into my mouth and twisting around my tongue before he started riding me, pulling out at a fast rate before plowing deep into me at a slow pace. Todo broke the kiss as he grunted, the pace picking up before we shifted positions.

He forced me to bend at the waist, my hands pressing against the ground as he kept my legs bent and spread apart with his tail. I was facing the ground as he was riding me from behind, my breasts rocking with each pounding I took from his member.

"This feels better," He gave a heated moan as I felt the familiar swelling of his cock, crying out as it grew in length and girth. Todo's waist pressed against mine as he thrusted into me, the force of each push weakening my arms until my shoulders pressed into the dirt underneath me, my head turned to the side to breath. The extreme angle my body was in sent wave after wave of pleasure in my head, the heat so intense in my core that I thought it was a mini furnace.

Todo reached down under me and grabbed both breasts, playing with them again as he grinded into me, his chest on my back once more before using his strength to lift me off the ground with just his hands. He continued to lift me up until I was upright against him, his new length spearing me over and over as his hands massaged my breasts.

"(Y/n)...aahh, you smell too good," Todo buried his nose into my hair, his lips kissing at the nape of my neck before biting down lightly. I cried out and he grunted in response as I tightened around his shaft, causing him to go faster. I lifted my hands to rest over his, feeling his fingers intertwine with mine as we both groped my chest.

"Todo," I panted out his name, feeling him twitch inside of me, "This feels really good--"

I was cut off by one of his hands, his arm shifting to support my chest while his other hand continued its assault on my breast.

"I know it does..." His tongue swiped at my wet skin, "Just keep saying my name, serf."

I moaned out his demands as often as I could, each mention of his name pushing him to go faster and deeper into me, hilting with each bounce of my breasts. This side of Todo was completely different than what I had imagined it could be. Instead of an uncertain eighteen-year-old tentatively exploring me, he had grabbed what he wanted and made sure I knew that he was in control.

I loved it.

"Todo--!" I screamed out his name as an orgasmic wave crashed over my nerves, my throat tightening in pleasure as he continued to plow into me. The first wave built up into a second wave that was more intense than the first, the wave just about to crest when Todo suddenly stopped. I cried out in agony as my body tried to trigger that second orgasm to start, but I was thoroughly pinned against the young naga, his length completely hilted inside of me.

"Ah, ah, ahh, serf...only when I say you can, then you will," His voice was dark and hoarse, almost sounding like he nearly lost himself to what he was doing.

"Todo, please...let me finish...!" I whined as he gently flexed his hand on my breast.

"Say that again."

"Todo, let me finish, please..."

"Say it again," Todo kissed my neck, his teeth grazing the skin as he pulled away.

"Todo, please let me finish!" I shouted in frustration, feeling the orgasm start to fade.

"Good," He pressed my chest down into the ground, completely releasing my breasts as his hands planted themselves on my back. Without warning, he pulled out completely before shoving his entire length back in, picking up the furious pace from before and igniting the fire within my core. Todo rode me hard, my legs forced apart by his tail as he speared me over and over, somehow going deeper each time.

I cried out as the wave of pleasure returned with a vengeance, crashing hard over my nerves as I twitched underneath the naga still riding me to his satisfaction. Another heat built up inside of me before I cried out, lifting myself up off the dirt and crying out in surprise when Todo bent back over me. His hands clung to my breasts like lifelines as he grunted in my ear, the sound triggering another orgasm before a different heat blossomed inside, the warmth spreading quickly within my womb.

Todo released my legs and I collapsed on the ground, my legs and waist having no strength left from all of the struggling that I was doing while tangling up in his coils. I fought to regain my breath, panting hard as I lay on my side.

I felt one of Todo's hands lightly trace up my exposed side before my head was turned to look at him. His face was completely flushed red, the amber flecks in his dark copper eyes sparkling with the sunlight, but I didn't feel charmed by him.

"I didn't say that I was done with you, (y/n)," A teasing look swirled in his eyes as he licked his top lip, "You've made quite a mess of me, and you need to clean it like a good serf should."

I glanced down to see his member was still fully erect, twitching as some semen clung to the sides. Without complaint, I moved to clean up my naga master, moaning happily as I felt him return the favor as I licked up the length of his throbbing shaft before slipping the large head into my mouth.

Kara

"Are you sure that I'm not hurting you?" I cautiously slathered more of the peppermint-smelling paste across my hands before gently laying them on the deep wounds that remained from Jyushi's attack, the viper naga completely relaxed under my touch as he sat in the spring near my home. I still felt his skin jump at the light contact before I massaged the paste into the fading wound.

"Just a little cold, but that's it," Kara's response was light, his head falling back to look at me sitting right behind him, "I know that you've been on the island for a few weeks now, but is there anything that you wanted to do?"

"Like what?" I lifted an eyebrow in curiosity, rubbing the last of the handmade paste onto his shoulders before moving to sit by Kara's side. I dipped my feet into the cool spring water, my boots and socks left by the spring's shore when Kara had asked for help applying the herbal medicine.

"Well," Kara adjusted his position, propping an elbow up on the grassy embankment while letting most of his chest sink deeper into the slow-moving spring, his tail completely submerged in its depths, "You've finished making your home here, I've pointed out the dangerous places in my territory and what to do when you accidentally fall into them. I'm just curious about what's going on in your mind in regards to the next step you want to take."

"I'm just kinda living life day by day," My eyes followed the line of his side, mentally creating the outline of his tail as the teal-blue merged with the dark waters perfectly, "There's still a few places that I want to explore, but nothing much really beyond that."

He hummed a little before his copper gaze flicked up to the thick canopy above us, "When we were locked away in those cages, the ones with the black wall, I had a lot of time to think about different things. Sometimes I thought about what it would be like to break down that wall and be with

those on the other side, while other times I became fascinated with listening to what they were talking about."

I continued to listen, leaning down to rinse off my hands in the water.

"Humans are definitely creatures that can become bored very quickly, some of them wanting to look at my brothers' cages when they couldn't find me while others talking about how I looked before diverting to another topic completely."

"Yeah, I can imagine."

"Their behavior made me wonder what you would do if you came with us, stranding yourself on our island without any way to get off of it," His copper hues locked onto mine, "So, my worry is based on the thought that you would quickly become bored of this life if you didn't have anything to do."

"I'm learning a lot from you and your brothers, Kara," I offered a gentle smile, "You've taught me how to make those herbal medicines that I can use, Todo has helped me find edible food while Oso is teaching me how to hunt for meat sources, Choro is helping me create a map of the island and where certain dangers are, and Jyushi helps me with making more and more advanced tools that I can use around the island."

"I didn't hear you mention Ichi."

"Well," Glancing away for a moment, I pressed a thumb into my bottom lip, pulling my hand away after a few seconds, "Ichi's been a little difficult lately, but I don't think it's his fault. With his territory mainly barren of greenery and wildlife, there's not much that I can really do there. I'm certainly remembering the hints or warnings that he gives me, but it's like he's pulling away from me."

Kara remained silent as I thought about how to talk about it.

"It seems that he acts like he wants nothing to do with me," A small frown pulled the corners of my lips down, "The last few visits I've been there, he's

completely avoided me and I have to try to hunt him down if I want to talk with him."

"Ichi has always been a recluse, (y/n), so it's not surprising to hear that he's taking his time in getting used to you living with us," He raised some of his tail out of the water, looking over to examine the rusted color of the tip before lowering it back down, "You're planning on being there tomorrow, right?"

"Yeah, for a few days before heading to Choro's territory," Giving a nod as I spoke, I watched as Kara sat up on the shore of the spring.

He hummed again as he looked into the water, closing his eyes for a moment before glancing over at me, "Mind if I ask about how the mating has gone?"

"I guess?" I broke eye contact, not expecting the question, "It's weird that you're all curious about it..."

"I'm not terribly curious about it," He laughed a little, "I just want to make sure that you're okay. The bruises I've seen on your skin only tell me so much of the story, and the ones I saw after your second week of travelling around the island worried me the most."

"You mean...the ones on my hips?" I fought down the embarrassment as my mind slipped back into the pleasant memory of having sex with Oso for the first time.

"They looked deep when you were changing your clothes, and I heard you make a pained sound when the clothing brushed up against it," Kara looked away, "I didn't mention it because you didn't seem to want to talk about the interaction."

"Well, it's weird to talk about the matings for me because back where I come from, sex between humans isn't really a public topic that is spoken of. I mean, it is in a few circles, but I wasn't in any of them...so getting asked 'how it felt' or 'did it hurt' are difficult for me to answer," I dipped my hands back into the spring water to scrub away some paste that had started to

harden, using my fingernails to scratch at it, "The matings I've had have all been pleasing in their own way, and I haven't been hurt by anyone besides the bruising...but that's more to do with how fragile I am just as a human."

The viper naga next to me simply nodded his head.

"I...actually do have a question that you

might

be able to answer, Kara."

"And what is that?" His copper hues met mine, his face holding a soft expression.

"When I've...locked...with the others, there's a sudden

swelling

that happens," I lost the fight to keep my face from twisting up in embarrassment, my cheeks growing hotter as I focused on my hands wringing each other just above the surface of the water, "Is that something...that normally happens?"

"We've never done this before, so I'm not sure of any 'swelling' that could happen or what it means when it does happen," Kara let out a short sigh, "Sorry that I don't have an answer for you, but I'll try and keep a clear head whenever we mate so I can tell you what it is."

"No, you don't need to do that," I laughed, a small chortle pulling itself through my nose, "That'd make me feel much more weird about it, knowing that you were analyzing every little detail that happened."

Kara joined in my laughter for a small moment, the noise slowly dying as we sat in silence. I flinched as I felt something drop onto my shoulder, looking over and seeing a fat wet stain start to spread through the fabric. Another wet glob hit my arm before I looked up to the canopy, seeing the light gray clouds pass through the dense cover.

"I guess there's a storm rolling in?" I shuddered as I stood up, shaking off the water from my feet as Kara matched my standing motion. The thought of being stranded in a harsh storm was something I didn't want to experience ever again.

"Not this time," He sounded confident, "Just a light rain to start the day. No one's announced its arrival, so it must not be that large of a cloud cover."

"A light rain is fine, a sudden storm is not," I motioned towards the fallen tree that served as my home in Kara's territory, the inside hollowed out and carved to create a lengthy room that could fit Kara inside, "I'm gonna take shelter just in case."

"Go ahead," Kara smiled, "I'm going to enjoy this rainfall for a few more moments."

I ducked inside my home just as the rain fell slightly harder, creating a pleasant orchestra of natural noises while I reached for my towel, intending on drying off my hair. Slowly drawing the towel away from my head, I looked back out of the entrance to see Kara standing still in the gentle rain, his face turned towards the sky.

Folding the towel back up and setting it down in its place, I walked out into the weather and stood next to Kara, the back of my hand brushing against his.

"Decided to come back out?"

"As long as this is the worst it'll get, I don't mind getting soaked," I tried to laugh, the rain partially drowning out the sound. I felt Kara's hand gently take mine, his fingers intertwining as he lowered himself down to my height.

"Are you sure? Choro mentioned that if you lose your heat then you become weak," A look of worry crossed his face as he moved to stand in front of me.

"I've got a source of warmth in my home, and plenty of things to dry myself with that you've all helped me find," I gave a reassuring smile, "If I get too cold, then I'll just go back into my house."

"If that's what you want," Kara returned the smile, his teal-blue hair completely soaked through and framing the sides of his face. We stood in silence for a while, hand in hand and just letting the calm rain wash over us.

Kara took in a breath before releasing my hand, "(Y/n), do you remember what I told you while that flying thing was resting on an island before we arrived?"

My eyebrows lifted in confusion, thinking back to when we were in Hawaii before my face flushed, "You mean...when you thought something was wrong with you because you wanted to give me more than a kiss?"

"Yes, that," His hand ran through my damp hair, the rain wetting it and calming down the frizz from the humidity, "I'm glad that you didn't run away from me after I said that."

"Why would I run?"

"Because of how your body reacted when I mentioned the word 'mating'," Kara's hand fell from my head, raising up to his neck and scratching a little, "Your breathing picked up and your heartbeat quickened to where I thought I said something I shouldn't have."

"Ah," I looked at the ground, seeing the packed dirt underneath my feet start to slick up into mud, "I can see that line of reasoning. No, I didn't want to run...it was just that I had realized a few things at that time, and I think I said some of them to you."

"Is it wrong that I still want to wait?"

"Wait to mate with me? Why?"

"Because the others have been rough, and I want you to be comfortable during the process with me..." I caught a light dusting of red on Kara's

cheeks as he looked towards me from the corner of his eye.

I moved to stand in front of him, taking his hand in mine again as I stood on my tiptoes to give him a kiss on the lips. I pulled away with a smile on my face, my eyes closed in satisfaction, "I don't think that there should be a set time on when the matings should happen. If the mood feels right, then it's a good time."

"Then, may I?" Kara's lips followed mine down as I stood on the heels of my feet again, drawing a surprised moan from me when I realized how close he actually was. Our lips locked in a deep kiss, his hands resting on my cheeks before moving down to my shoulders, lightly tracing over my arms before hooking around the small of my back and pressing me against his chest. My hands wrapped underneath his arms and pressed against his back muscles, the muscular frame offering some resistance to my touch.

Kara moaned into the kiss as he lifted himself a little higher off the ground, my bare toes leaving the wet earth underneath me and my legs instantly pressed themselves on either side of his hips, a small laugh rolling from his chest.

"Don't worry, I won't drop you," His arms adjusted, one lifting higher near my shoulders while the other dipped low near my buttocks, "I love you too much to hurt you, intentionally or otherwise."

He distracted me from the new height with another kiss, my arms settling behind his head as I felt his hands caress my skin through the wet fabric. The kiss became more intense as my inner fire started to crackle to life, the damp fabric of my cargo pants not doing me any favors as my legs spread a little wider. Something hard pressed into my back, forcing me to arch it and press my chest into Kara's, breaking the kiss.

"Is there anything that you want to have done to you, (y/n)?" His voice had shifted into a deeper tone, the copper eyes bright despite the rain around us.

"Not that I can think of," I panted, feeling his body move under my hands and legs.

"Very well," He hummed as his lips connected with mine, one of his hands pulling apart my button-up shirt and working its way all the way down. The wet fabric did little to resist the movement after all of the buttons were undone, revealing the bra that clung to my breasts as it attempted to hold them up in the rain. The hard thing behind me shifted once more as

both

of Kara's hands pressed against my upper back, his lips releasing mine with a soft 'pop' while his head dipped down towards my breasts.

Two fingers hooked over one of the cups and pulled the taut fabric down, Kara leaving a trail of kisses until he had fully revealed the nipple, gently taking it in his mouth and suckling on it. I gasped in pleasure as the hardening nipple fit the gap in his teeth where his fang would lock, the sensitive nub poked and prodded by the forked tongue as he continued to kiss and suck on the breast. My arms relaxed as one of his hands pulled down at the shirt collar from behind, dragging the useless article of clothing off of my chest and down my arms before it returned to move around the straps of the bra on my shoulders.

Kara gave the one breast enough attention to last several lifetimes, not interested in rushing to get to the other one that still sat within the bra cup.

I was left writhing in passion between him and whatever was behind me, my mind becoming foggy from the intense attention Kara was giving me. I hadn't noticed that he had pulled the other breast out until he was playing with the nipple, the bra straps resting right where the shirt was on my elbows and propping up both mounds of flesh as they rested in plain view.

My hands wound their way to the back of Kara's head, my fingers tightening around several clumps of his wet hair and holding him close as he continued his oral assault of pleasure. The forked tongue gave

just

enough attention to remain pleasurable without dipping into the pain boundary.

I cried out in surprise when one of his hands dipped down the waistline of my pants, my mind barely registering that it was his

tail

before I felt it loop from the back to the front of my waist. Kara hummed in acknowledgement as he finally released my breast from his mouth, the raindrops trailing down my skin like tiny streams as he looked up at me.

"Does that excite you?" His tail slowly curled around my lower waist, as if wanting to confirm what I was feeling from his touch.

"Yes, it does," I panted, groaning as it slowly shifted down lower until the very tip of his tail was mere millimeters away from my entrance, "Ah, Kara...I want more...!"

"Whatever my mate wants, she'll get," Kara gently pulled my head down, offering a deep kiss while his tail lightly pressed itself against my entrance, the burning embers in my core quickly turning into a raging inferno. I kissed him back, letting my passion speak for itself as he responded in kind.

Pushing my arms back and letting the soaked shirt and bra fall to the ground, I brought them back to Kara's head, once more entangling my fingers into his teal-blue hair as his hands explored my newly revealed skin. His chest brushed against my breasts, the scales scattered across his skin rubbing against the erect nipples and drawing a gasp from me, his mouth moving down my neck and pressing against the sensitive area near my shoulder.

His tail flexed a little bit, pressing into the outer lips of my entrance more before slipping inside. I leaned my head back in ecstasy, feeling the cool rain sprinkle down onto my heated skin as I felt more and more of my upper legs become exposed to the chilled air. Kara didn't move the tail any further than where it was, teasingly curling it in a large circle before unflexing it back into its original position. His hands wandered from my back to my waist, his thumbs pressing into my thighs as the thing behind me moved my chest into a more favorable position, allowing his mouth to take in one of my breasts again.

The thought of Kara's fang accidently nicking me never crossed my mind, just letting myself enjoy the attention that he was willingly giving me.

When Kara's hands reached my feet, I heard something heavy and wet slap onto the ground but didn't care what it was, his tail continuing its assault inside of me before I felt something else make its presence known. I focused on what it was, seeing the head and upper shaft of a human penis sandwich itself between my core and Kara's waist. Like the others I had seen, it was a hybridization just like the one that had it -- human skin on the head and upper shaft while the lower shaft was covered in teal-blue scales.

The sight of the erect shaft excited me, a mewl drawing itself from my lips as I leaned my head towards Kara, catching his eye at nearly the last moment before he released the breast in his mouth and caught my lips in a passionate kiss.

"Is that what you'd like, my mate?" His voice was hoarse between kisses, a slight moan reverberating in his throat as my entrance became more and more ready for him. Kara's tail pressed deeper before completely withdrawing.

"Kara, I want you --

all

of you," I moaned as I felt him adjust my body, positioning my opening right above his member as he hooked his arms underneath my legs to help me stay up, "I want you to do more than just kiss and play with me."

"As you wish," His bright copper gaze held my own colored hues as I felt the head of his member slowly push up into me, breaking the eye contact nearly immediately as I cried out. The teasing that he had done was more than enough to prepare my body for him, his shaft sliding deep inside of me easily as Kara lowered me onto him.

Kara filled me up with just his size, feeling much larger than anything else I'd experienced, but there was no pain that accompanied it despite the brief thought that he must've pushed himself all the way

inside

my womb. He sat there for a few seconds before pushing me back up, allowing me to vertically ride him before my body caught onto his pace and tightened my legs against his waist.

Wrapping his arms around my back, Kara fully supported me as I cried out with each motion I did, his entire length more than enough to press in the right areas. I used my arms and legs to force myself to move up and down, his arms helping me when I started to grow weaker.

At first, the pace was harsh with gravity fighting against me half of the time, but it soon evened out as my breasts started to bounce with each 'thrust' more and more.

But then Kara

actually

started to push himself into me, his hips grinding against mine and sending stars bursting in my eyes as my core begged for more attention, for more intensity. As if reading what my body wanted, Kara sharpened the angle of his pattern as it grew more forceful. Each slap of skin on scale was more than enough to drive my mind wind as his dick rammed into me, the pace slowly picking up as the ball of nerves near my belly began to tighten.

My hands couldn't figure out if they wanted to hang limply over Kara's shoulders or tighten in his hair, my breasts drawing his attention as he deftly caught one in his mouth at the peak of a bounce. The forked tongue started its work again, drawing a passionate cry from me as the tightly wound ball began to fray near the ends, threatening to come undone soon.

"Ah~! Kara, please...more!" I could barely form the words as he continued to hilt inside me. He hummed a response against my nipple, making me throw my head back with a cry before I felt his tail rub against any available space on my entrance.

Suddenly, my core vibrated with excitement as it felt

fuller

, two different rhythms being pounded out against my body before it clicked that Kara's tail had gone inside me, matching its off-beat pattern with his member.

I shouted out in surprise before Kara's lips pressed against mine, smothering the shout into a rough moan. He leaned a little more over me, his hands playing with each breast and nipple while my back was pressed against something large and scaly. The semi-extreme angle gave him more access to my deeper cavern as he rammed himself all the way inside of me, fully hilting before the pace was too much for me.

The fraying ball of nerves quickly unravelled and I cried out into the kiss, feeling my inner walls constrict and clench around both his member and tail, offering more resistance before he groaned in response.

I felt the familiar swelling as he pulled his tail out, his member pressing against my walls and digging deeper into me as we went at a harsher pace. In a brief moment of clarity, I remembered what had happened at the zoo with the toxicologist, pulling away from the kiss and pressing my lips against his neck. Licking along where the venom sac was, I heard Kara cry out in a higher pitch than I thought he could, his hands quickly grabbing my hips and using them to steady our rhythm.

"(Y/n)...please do that again...!" His voice was pleading, grunting a little near the end as I felt a second orgasm start to build up within my belly.

Laying my tongue as flat as I could against his skin, I pressed it against his neck, using the motion of our mating to create the pace for my tongue as well. He mewled under me before I cried out, feeling a wave of warmth coat my womb inside, my body tightening once more around his member as our orgasms fed each other.

It felt like forever before I could see again, my vision sharpening as the cacophony of visual noise slowly left. My body lightly twitched, my core brushing up against something that caused another small orgasmic spasm. I

could feel cool scales between my legs and a head of hair between my arms, slowly looking down to see Kara smile back up at me.

Kara still held me up as I recovered in his arms, my legs still draped on either side of his waist. His bright copper eyes were filled with happiness, the smile light and caring.

"You passed out for a little bit," His voice was soft.

"Oh, did I?" I adjusted myself in his arms, straightening back up, "I'm sorry about that."

"Don't be sorry for something that clearly felt wonderful," Kara pressed the bridge of his nose into my right cheek, "Let's get you out of this rain, since you're starting to cool down."

"What about you?" I shook my head, trying to gather my thoughts, "Did it feel nice for you?"

"More than I thought it would, I'll admit," Kara ducked down and slowly let my feet touch cool, dry ground, "When this storm ends, I'll wash the clothes that got dirty in the process and you can wash up and sleep before leaving for Ichi's territory in the morning."

"Wait," I caught his hand as he started to back out of the 'doorway' of my home. He looked back at me with a slightly raised eyebrow, curiosity in his copper gaze, "The storm doesn't look like it's going to stop for a few more hours...we could--"

I briefly looked away before Kara lifted a hand to bring my chin to face him once more.

"Just say what you'd like, my mate," His voice was full of understanding, "You know that I will gladly do anything for you."

"I'd...like to continue. It felt really nice, and...I want more."

"Then say no more," Kara lifted my chin up a little more, giving me a deep kiss as his other hand ran through my soaked hair, "I will make sure that my

mate stays warm while the rain can have its fun outside."

Ichi

The sun was briefly smothered as a thick cloud passed between it and the island, drawing my attention up as the shade cooled down my sun-soaked skin. I took a swig of water from one of the canteens from the lab, finishing the last little bit before pulling the plastic spout from my lips and looking towards the work that I had been doing for a majority of the day.

Three stone bowls sat on top of the ragged boulder underneath my crossed legs, the hardened stone tools resting near my knees as three more stone bowls sat in a neat stack to my left. I had been carving the stone tools and dishware for a majority of the time that I spent in Ichi's territory, crafting what I could without interfering with anything that he was doing.

I felt a frown start to pull at the corners of my lips, setting the water canteen gently on my right knee and leaning onto my hand, the elbow propped up on my knee.

It had been just over two months since the nagas had returned home and, while the others were more than willing to be with me, Ichi hadn't even tried to mate with me. In fact, he seemed to be against the idea completely.

I had confronted him about it in a gentle manner, asking if I was doing something wrong or if it was poorly timed with my ovulation, but he just brushed it off whenever the topic was brought up. Part of me wondered if he was even interested in sex at all, which would've been fine...except I was getting all kinds of mixed signals from the lavender corn naga.

Sometimes Ichi would look like he wanted to be with me, holding me close and offering heated kisses during the hug...only to pull away before I could think of returning the affection. Other times, he wouldn't even let me see him when I came by his territory, and often avoided me during my stay while using his ability to ensure that I couldn't find him.

It was

confusing

.

Focusing back on the bowls as the sun peeked out from behind the cloud cover, I set down the canteen and began working on the three in front of me again.

I was often reassured by the others that Ichi preferred to do things at his own pace, and that may have included mating. If he really did want to be with me physically, then he'd make sure that it happened.

"Another bowl? What happened to the last one?" Oso peered through the opening of my home as I moved towards the 'kitchen' area where I had herbs drying up in the racks I made, placing a stone bowl with the other kitchenware.

"It broke when I was bit, remember?" I turned to look at him from over my shoulder, seeing a look of recognition pass over his face.

"Ah, yeah..." His red-and-black gaze fell to the ground, "Sorry I didn't take care of that faster."

"It's not like you knew something had tried to move into my home overnight, and I'm not holding you responsible for things you couldn't account for."

The moment of silence stretched into a few minutes before either one of us spoke, my attention fixated on reorganizing the arrangement of the dishware.

"(Y/n)," My name fell from Oso's lips with a tense tone, "If I can be honest, I don't think you should go back to Ichi's territory tomorrow. The constant rainfall over the past half-moon has made the mountainside dangerous."

"But, Oso, I've never let the weather stop me from visiting you guys before," Moving back to the entrance, I reached out and held his hand,

"That's not fair to him."

"Being in a jungle after a rainstorm is different than being near a mountain, (y/n)," His gaze snapped up to me, "Rocks are a lot harder for us to predict than loose dirt or trees."

"Regardless," I squeezed his hand gently, "This is still something that I want to do. I'll be extra careful when I'm there, okay?"

"Please..." Oso leaned in and pressed his lips against mine, the kiss full of wanting. He held it as his hands moved up my arms and cupped my head, pulling me close as he deepened the kiss, "I want to see you alive again, okay?"

I kept Oso's words in mind as I made the trek to Ichi's territory, noticing that more boulders had fallen into Todo's area as I kept pressing forward. The sling bag that I had made from the torn shirt rested across my back, holding what I needed for the visit. My more advanced manmade things were long gone by now, but I had learned several compromises with the naga brothers that were made by plants grown on the island, such as the 'shampoo-conditioner' combination and some soap that took several days to make.

Crossing from the marshland undergrowth of Todo's area into the rocky flatlands that Ichi stalked made my journey a bit slower, my eyes constantly moving from the mountain range on my left to the boulders that had slightly shifted since my last visit. Some new ones had tumbled down the slopes, their tracks fresh in the mud and ground that I could partially see where they had fallen from.

"Ichi, it's (y/n)," I called out as I made my way towards my home, hoping to stop in and drop off my bag before finding something to do while Ichi decided if he wanted to be around me or not this time, "I'm heading to my home, so don't worry about me messing with whatever you're doing."

Heaving a deep sigh, I closed my eyes for a few seconds as I kept walking.

If I had to be honest with myself, I'd confess that this kind of treatment really hurt. While Jyushi had his own set of problems that we were still working on, I wasn't sure if I preferred fighting about my length of stay with each brother over this 'ignore the human' issue that Ichi seemed to be going through. It's not like I could even find him if I desperately needed to, since his ability completely erased his presence from all of my senses.

When he had comforted me after we pushed the helicopter over the cliffs, I had thought that we were taking steps in the right direction, his actions afterwards reinforcing that line of thinking. But with his semi-recent behavior changing on a dime, the only thing I could think of was that I did something wrong. His pointed shunning only drove that thought home.

I set my bag down on the bed made of leaves and branches, tightening some of the corded vines that had started to come undone in my absence. Turning and sitting on the bed, I leaned forward and shoved my face into my hands, a wave of sadness washing over me as I fought back the tears.

I don't know how long I cried.

When I woke up, my eyelids felt heavy and swollen. Struggling to get them to work, I sat up in my bed and groaned lightly as a lightheaded feeling swept over my body.

"Rest if you need it," I stilled at the voice, listening carefully for any clues as to where the speaker was, "I'll go get you something to eat."

"I don't need food, Ichi," Pinpointing about where he was, I turned my head towards the entrance to my home. My eyelids finally gave way to the muscles controlling them, opening my eyes to see Ichi laying, or rather lounging, along the upper part of the rocks that were positioned to form the slim doorway, "I need to know what you're thinking so I can fix it."

"There's nothing to fix," His dark eyes barely blinked as the naga started to move through an opening near him, squeezing out of my home and into the wide world beyond, "I'll be back with food."

"How do I know?" I stood up too fast, nearly falling over before steadying myself by placing a hand against the wall next to my bed, "How do I know that you'll actually come back instead of staying away from me?"

My heart fell down to my gut as I watched his tail shrink in size before completely disappearing through his chosen entrance. There wasn't a response from him, verbal or otherwise, and I stood there for several seconds before I felt the familiar wave of sadness return sevenfold.

This wasn't the first time that Ichi hasn't responded to me, but it's the first time that I've let myself become this affected by it.

Gritting my teeth, I furiously wiped away the tears streaming down my cheeks and headed out of my home, squeezing through the tighter-than-usual entrance on the ground. I glanced up when I heard a muffled crackling sound echoing out from somewhere above me, a sheet of gray and brown tumbling and racing down towards my head from the mountain that my home was crafted into.

I screamed as I squirmed back through the opening, the large rock shifting as the first parts of the rockslide collided with its topmost part. Worming my way through just as the rockslide collided with where I was just standing, I pressed my back against the rearmost wall as fear gripped me tightly in its cold clutches. The loud, deafening sound of the rockslide bouncing inside the naturally made cave as I pressed my hands over my ears.

Several sharp pains lanced up my legs before I could move them, glancing down to see that the smaller rocks and gravel had streamed in through the two different openings and filled my home. They were

still

flooding in as the noise from outside slowly became more and more muffled, my hands quickly shifting to cover my nose and mouth before a wave of loose rock slammed into my chest. The sharp edges dug into my skin as my entire body was covered with the fallen debris, and I closed my

eyes tightly, trying to cover them with my fingers before my face was hit by loose earth that still poured into my home.

I couldn't see or hear anything anymore.

Ichi growled as he tightened his jaw around the back of a hare, snapping its spine and killing it instantly. He eyed the other two jumping away from him before spitting out the hare in his mouth, the dead creature landing in his waiting open hand before turning back towards (y/n)'s home.

He knew what she wanted, could smell it from her on the other side of the island, but he didn't know how to explain his problems to her. (Y/n) had been with his brothers, so he didn't understand why she wanted to be with

him

. He was a broken creature, something that shouldn't be cared about except as food for a bigger predator. Ichi glanced down at the dead hare in his hand, his fingers tightening around its limp neck before he relaxed his grip.

No, he'd continue to refuse what (y/n) wanted from him. Let her receive that kind of attention from his brothers since they were clearly much better at it than him.

Slithering around some larger boulders, Ichi glanced up at the mountainside and noticed that one of the smaller peaks was missing, making note of its path as it poured down the slope and covered a good portion of the ragged cliffs near the base. He closed his eyes briefly before continuing on, figuring out how to warn (y/n) of the possible danger that her home was in. The constant rain hadn't helped anything, but her den was set deep enough into the mountainside that a rockslide wouldn't have much effect on its stability.

Ichi stilled as he continued around the mountainside, confusion rising in his head as the path that was supposed to lead to (y/n)'s den was gone. The flattened stones that served as her walkway towards her home were

nowhere to be found, as if someone had just picked them up and ran off with them.

His eyes narrowed as he tasted the air, nearly choking on the dust that clung to his forked tongue. The rockslide he passed was fairly recent if the dust was still settling in the calm afternoon air, but he couldn't pinpoint where (y/n) was.

It was as if she had vanished alongside those pathway stones.

Ichi's heart thudded heavily in his chest, his eyes widening in fear as the hare fell to the ground.

The rockslide hadn't happened near (y/n)'s home...it happened

right on top of it

.

"(Y/n)...!" His voice was tense as he quickly sprinted back towards the rockslide site, panic slowly setting in as the earthen debris greeted him. There was no sign that someone was living here, the entrance to (y/n)'s home completely encompassed and swallowed by rocks, dirt, gravel, and larger stones as the slide had created its own slope from the mountainside, "(Y/n)!"

'

What the hell is going on, Ichi?

' A feeling of either disgust or distrust hit Ichi's senses as his hands started digging near where he thought the entrance would be. The wind had carried it from the south, marking it as Todo or Kara.

'

I need help! (Y/n) is buried!

' He winced as his fingers were cut on some of the sharper rocks, recoiling a little before digging back into the rockslide.

A tense moment passed before he was hit with five different scents at once.

'

Where is she!?

'

'

Why weren't you with her?!

'

'

Send your location, and I'll come help dig!

'

'

You're worthless, aren't you?!

'

'

I'm on my way, so keep trying to find her!

'

Tears flooded Ichi's eyes as the pain started to grow worse in his fingertips, each handful of stones and gravel causing him to shed more blood. The physical pain was nothing compared to the mental lashing he was giving himself, knowing full well that if he had just taken her with on the hunt, she

would've been safe. The rockslide would've still buried her home, but that was a much easier cost to pay -- a home could be replaced over and over but a loving mate that continued to visit him was worth much more than her weight in food.

Ichi cried out loud, sending his location to his brothers before forcing his hands through the top layer of gravel, the tears falling down and hitting the debris underneath. He continued to dig until a pair of hands pulled him away from the partially carved out slope, breaking his focus from the task and looking over to see Kara's copper eyes, his black pupils wide as if he was ready to strike.

"Kara...I--" The younger started, bringing his bloodied hands up to try and point out where he was digging.

"Don't," The viper naga interrupted, "There's no time to talk."

Ichi watched as Kara brought up a hardened stone dagger, turning it in his grip and shoving the blade down into the slope where Ichi had been working on. With a single motion, Kara upheaved an armful of rocks with a backswing, using the dagger like a makeshift shovel. Ichi stared at him for a few seconds before realizing that a second dagger lay in front of his pale belly scales, grabbing it and using it in the same manner as his older brother.

Both nagas continued to work before they heard other sounds of hardened stone, glancing over in opposite directions to see Oso and Todo working in tandem with them. The four larger tools were soon joined by two more, all six nagas working to reveal the cave hidden within the rockslide debris.

"There's a way in!" Todo shouted from near the top after several minutes had passed.

Choro echoed his excitement with another cry, "There's air in there!"

"Can you fit?" Oso called out, his fatigue and worry plainly worn on his face as he continued to dig towards the den.

"Barely," The response wasn't what the brothers were wanting to hear, "I think the rock shifted during the slide. Jyushi, can you move it?"

"Yeah!" The reticulated naga quickly dropped the dagger in his hands and crawled up the slope, careful to not send more debris falling towards the work they had done with his massive tail. Jyushi leaned close to where Todo was pointed, finding a small handhold that had been dug out before noticing the air pocket that had been mentioned by the third oldest.

Jyushi adjusted his posture, slowly lifting up the rock slab that had served as the top half of (y/n)'s front wall. The slab shifted a little, some smaller pebbles clattering into the den as gravity pulled them down when there was enough space for them.

"Jyushi, toss it to the side," Kara pointed towards the area just next to the rockslide, and Jyushi's muscles surged as he gripped the slab with his second hand, his arm muscles flexing as he shoved the slab upwards. The rock lifted with his toss, tumbling over to the area pointed out by Kara before sliding down and hitting the flatland.

"(Y/n)! Where are you?!" Todo called out as Jyushi focused on the rock, his tongue rapidly flicking in and out to try and pick up any trace of her scent, "(Y/n)!"

Ichi and Kara moved from the bottom of the rockslide up to where the others had gathered, looking into her den as they tried to find signs of life.

Ichi dropped into her home, most of it buried under gravel that had flooded in through the openings. His dark eyes followed the path that the earthen debris would've taken and crawled over to the back wall, his gaze focused on the ground underneath him.

They could all smell her terror and fear within the room, the rock slab acting like a seal over the place and allowing her scent to waft free. The others didn't move into her home for fear of crushing her underneath their combined weight, waiting until Ichi found whatever he was looking for.

"...come on, (y/n)..." He whispered to himself, slowly digging down against the wall as his fingers slowly numbed from the pain, "I'm sorry I left you here...so please let me find you alive. Let me make this up to you..."

His fingertips brushed against something soft, drawing a cry from his throat as he frantically dug around what he touched. After several tense seconds, Ichi uncovered (y/n)'s limp left hand.

"Jyushi!" Ichi looked up behind him, the tear tracks fresh on his dirtied face instantly drawing the reticulated naga to his side. As he moved closer, his orange eyes widened as the black pupils constricted, his hands instantly diving down through the gravel and roughly grabbing (y/n)'s arms. Ichi moved away as the others dropped down, his shame and guilt growing as Jyushi pulled out a dust-covered (y/n), her body limp in his arms. Kara pushed forward and wiped off what dust and gravel he could from her face, his fingers ghosting over her nose and mouth before a soft smile pulled at his lips.

"She's still breathing...!" The viper naga turned towards the lavender corn naga, his copper eyes locking onto his shrinking figure, "Ichi, where's the closest spring to here?"

"...just south, you can't miss it."

"Take her there and find her something soft to eat," Kara glanced towards the others, "We'll stay here and clear this mess out so (y/n) has somewhere to come back to."

"We can't trust him with her!" Todo cried out, pointing an accusatory finger at Ichi, "He's the reason why this happened to her in the first place!"

"If he's really guilty, then wouldn't she want to give him a chance to redeem himself?" Oso backed up the second oldest, moving between Todo and Ichi as the viper naga tightened his grip around the dagger, "She gave

you

plenty of chances, didn't she?"

Todo recoiled from the oldest naga, his dark copper eyes narrowing as he moved away from the three nagas, "...fine..."

"Do you know how to make food soft enough for her to eat?" Kara carefully took (y/n) from Jyushi's arms, barely sparing a glance to combat the visual challenge the reticulated naga was giving him before turning to Ichi, moving close so he could take her.

"...I think so," Ichi slowly took (y/n) from Kara, feeling her light body in her arms before holding her close so she wouldn't fall from his grip.

"Choro, go with him," Oso commanded before the lavender corn naga shifted his focus from (y/n) to the oldest.

"No, I'll be fine on my own," He found a stable-enough path out of the hole that had been torn open near the ceiling, moving along it as he spoke, "Clear out her den and we'll be back when she's awake."

Ichi slowly peeled off the damaged clothing from (y/n)'s body, ensuring that she was fully naked before he carried her into the warm spring water. It had hurt to watch the bruises reveal themselves as the dirt and dust washed away with each light splash he sent over her body. Carefully moving her onto a larger section of his tail, Ichi let his hands rub against her skin, gently washing her arms and legs before moving up to her wounded face.

Blood had dried around her right eye, the eyebrow split neatly by a large cut that had long stopped bleeding. Bruises began to darken over her left eye while her bottom lip was cut open, the blood leaving a trail down her chin that collected the dust and dirt that had sat against her face from the debris.

(Y/n) hadn't twitched an inch the entire time she was in the water as Ichi's heart began begging to see her move again, to see her open her eyes and yell at him for seeing her naked, or for her to take in that deep breath like when Choro had rescued her from the rainstorm.

He wanted her to do the things that she had done to his brothers, regardless if it was being reprimanded or cared for.

"(Y/n)...please wake up..." Ichi gently pressed the bridge of his nose against her left cheek, his tears starting again, "I'm so sorry, (y/n)..."

I felt warm, my fingers reaching out to grab at whatever was wrapped around me. I wasn't expecting to feel something cool, slowly opening my eyes to see my hands holding onto someone's arm. Light purple scales blossomed from their skin as my eyes traced up the limb to see a surprised smile aimed at me, a pair of dark eyes widening before they came closer.

My right eye throbbed with pain, causing me to close it again instantly.

"(Y/n), you're awake!" The warmth that was surrounding me shifted as they moved towards me, their arms wrapping around my back as the sound of water echoed around wherever I was at.

"Ichi...?" The naga's name easily left my lips, my mind starting to wake up more after recognizing the one holding me, "What happened?"

"It was all my fault," His hug tightened before loosening, something hard curling itself underneath my legs and propping me up in a sitting position as his hands shifted from my back to my shoulders, "I don't care what you do to me as punishment, but don't do anything against my brothers."

"I -- I don't understand, Ichi. One moment, I'm in my home..." The memory of rocks blocking my vision flashed before my eyes, making me flinch before I brought my hands up to my face instinctively, "There was a rockslide...and it started because I tried to run after you."

"No, it didn't," Ichi gripped my hands between his, "You had nothing to do with what happened. Even if you still think that you caused it, I don't care. Your health means everything to me."

"If my health means everything to you, then why did you

ignore

me whenever I visited?" I felt myself asking before I could stop the thought, crying out mentally that I didn't need to get into a fight with Ichi right after waking up from a death-defying situation.

"Because you don't deserve me!" His answer was sharp, but not loud enough to startle me, "Everything I could possibly offer is something you've already gotten from one of my brothers...(Y/n), I've tasted it in your scent whenever you come over -- I'm just a disappointment in your life."

"No, you're not," My hands grabbed onto his arms as he tried to pull away from me, my left eye locked with his dark hues, "Ichi, you're not a disappointment to me, nor have you ever been. I just want to know if I've done something that upset you to the point of not interacting with me!"

"Why?" His tone sounded hurt, sliding from my poor grip easily and backing away from me. Whatever was underneath me stopped holding me up, making me fight against gravity to stay above the waterline.

That was when I realized that I was naked in a spring, the natural water source partially enclosed under a rock outcropping that kept most of it in the shade. The water was warm from soaking in the sun all day, and it had felt nice against my battered and bruised skin...but I couldn't focus on that.

"Because I still want to be your mate, Ichi!" I shouted before my strength gave out, slipping underneath the surface for a brief moment before a pair of arms picked me up. I coughed and sputtered as I wiped away the water trailing down my face, sucking in a hissing breath when I brushed against my right eyebrow.

"Why are you so adamant about that?" Ichi sounded close as I felt the hardened surface from before (his tail, my mind remembered) curl up underneath me like a seat. His brow was furrowed in confusion as I looked up at him, gently testing out my right eye again, "My brothers are more than enough to satisfy you, so why do you even

want

me as your mate?"

"I love you, Ichi...I've told this to you many times, and I'll keep saying it," I winced as his left hand gently pressed against my right cheek, his thumb right underneath my eye, "Just because I've already been with your brothers doesn't mean that I don't want to be with you anymore."

The confused look dropped from his face as hurt slowly replaced it, "I can't satisfy you like they can, (y/n)."

"That doesn't matter to me," I shook my head a little, keeping my gaze on him, "If I was just in it for satisfaction, I would've stopped a while ago and just stayed with one of your brothers. To me, having sex is more than just the pleasure I feel," I pressed my right hand against his, pinning it to my right cheek, "It's about the connection between myself and my partner."

Ichi's face morphed with some kind of emotion, a mixture of uncertainty and fear spreading across his face.

"Ichi," His name was softly spoken from my lips, "Did you...even want to mate with me?"

"Of course, I do," His voice was just as tender as mine, "But I'm broken...I don't think I can please you like Todo or Choro can, and I'm not as tame as Kara, nor rough like Jyushi and Oso are."

"You don't need to be like the others. None of them tried to outdo what someone else did, and I never forced them to act in a specific way," I released his hand, trailing my fingers over his arm and lightly pressing my fingertips against his cheekbone, "If you still want to wait for a right moment, then that's all I need to hear."

Ichi's hand dropped from my face as he glanced towards his right, pulling away from me as I sat on a length of coil. I gave him a few moments before concluding that this wasn't the right time in his mind and moved off of his tail, swimming towards a shallow part of the spring and tending to the wounds that I felt on my face and body.

Running my fingers through my hair, I leaned back to dip it into the water for a rinse before I headbutted something hard. I glanced up to see Ichi casting a soft look down at me, my head resting against his chest as his arms pulled my back against him.

"I'll help you get clean, then we can go back," His voice rumbled in his chest, "My brothers are digging out what they can."

"Okay..." I straightened up as he released me, his hands lightly pressing against my back as Ichi washed away the dirt that was stubborn to keep clinging to me. I focused on my front before washing my face off, wincing at the pain still throbbing in my right eyebrow, "Ahh..."

"Your right eye is injured again," The lavender corn naga's voice was quiet, "I think something hit your eye and widened the split from earlier."

"Then I'll have to be careful," I nodded to myself, splashing up water over my shoulders before I felt Ichi's arms gently rest over my stomach, "Ichi?"

"(Y/n)," My name fell from his lips, his breath caressing the side of my neck, "What can I do to make up for what happened to you? If I had brought you with me, you would've never been in the rockslide's path..."

"What's happened is in the past, unfortunately. There's nothing that you can do to erase what's been done," I took a breath in through my nose, "But you can always apologize for something that you felt was wrong in doing."

"I'm sorry for leaving you alone, or ignoring you for a moon," Ichi's breath felt faint, but his arms remained where they were, "I'm a pretty poor excuse for a mate..."

"Not everyone can start on a good footing, Ichi," I turned my head towards him, catching the growing blush on his face, "It's how we act after that can strengthen, or break, a bond."

"Then let me start to strengthen ours now."

With little warning, Ichi's dark eyes locked onto mine and pressed his lips against my partially opened ones, smothering the question that was rising in my throat. His hands pressed more firmly onto my stomach as my lower back and rear were nestled against his waist, the left hand raising up along my side until it cupped my cheek and ensuring my head stayed in its turned position.

Releasing the kiss and swiftly moving back in for a deeper one, Ichi pressed his waist more against my butt and pushed me forward until I was propping myself up against the small rocky cliff of the spring, the motion forcing me to break the kiss. A soft moan escaped my lips as the hand caressing my jawline trailed down my shoulder and gently traced the soft skin of my breast, his fingertips warmed from the water.

"Your body is telling me to do more," His breath was hot against my back, "Is that what you want?"

"Ichi, I just want you to do whatever you want to me," A mewl purred from my throat as his fingers lightly rubbed over the nipple, "I won't force you to do anything."

"I think you'll quickly learn one thing about me--"

Before I could ask what he meant, his hardened shaft slipped deep inside my ill-prepared cavern, drawing a surprised cry from me before a hand clamped down over my mouth. My breasts were pushed against the smooth rock face where I was standing, my waist bending over the edge of the rocky spring shore as Ichi moved both of us into a more favorable position for him. His member throbbed inside of me, partially swelling without either of us moving very much.

"--I can be very cruel to those I love."

My pained moans were muffled by his hand as he pulled out completely before shoving himself back inside, fully hilting and pushing my body against the ground with the sharp movement. His motions were slow and methodical, pulling out every few seconds and allowing my body to recover

from the sudden joining before ramming himself back in, the pain mixing heavily with pleasure.

Ichi growled in response to my moans, his index and middle finger slipping inside my mouth and playing with my tongue as he continued to viciously ride me at the slow, methodical pace. The water from the spring began to lap up onto the shore, its temperature just as warm as the rock I was pressed against. I finally gained some footing and spread my legs a little wider, allowing Ichi to plunge deeper than I thought possible.

Closing my eyes, I cried out as Ichi changed his pace a little while his fingers tugged at my tongue. Instead of the sharp, deep thrusts that I had started aching for, Ichi dropped his other hand to the front of my waist and reached for my excited mound. His fingertips brushed against my clitoris as he changed the angle of his waist, moving from a deep plough to a shallow, rapid thrusting that resembled a piston in an engine. Each time he pushed inside, his finger would lightly graze across the sensitive surface and cause my nerves to light up.

"So, you like this?" Ichi's voice whispered against my ear as my voice whined higher in pitch, almost begging for more. I couldn't do anything but nod an affirmation, my nethers trembling at the rolling laugh that emerged from deep within his chest, "Good..."

His hand in my mouth lifted my upper body into the air, my lower half still receiving attention from Ichi. I felt my eyes start to roll into the back of my skull as my back rested against his chest, the flat angle giving him more access that he greedily used. His sharp teeth dragged against my neck, barely nicking a swelling bruise before he removed the hand against my sensitive nub, wrapping the same arm around my waist. With no warning, Ichi tilted his waist upwards and shoved me down onto his length, my breathy cry echoing in the air around us as he refused to move me anymore.

The longer he held me against him, the more I realized that he wasn't going to play by any rules that I knew of. A whine rolled from my throat, his slick fingers sliding out of my mouth and creating a trail of saliva down my sternum to past my navel, suddenly curling up into my entrance. The whine

shifted into a mewl as I felt his fingers wiggle against my trembling walls, his shaft becoming more erect as I tried to rub against Ichi.

"I-Ichi..." My face flushed with red as I could barely utter his name, my mind so addled with pleasure and pain that I couldn't really think straight anymore. My eye squeezed shut as his hand reminded my body that Ichi was the one in control right now, his fingers barely curling inside of me and rubbing against the frontal walls of my entrance. I heard the satisfied hum before I felt his length start to pull away from me, the girthy width slowly narrowing to the slim neck before the rounded head slipped out. Ichi's fingers pushed a little further in before he caught my lips in a deep kiss, ramming his shaft right back where it had been settled and drawing a scream from me.

His lips twisted up into a wicked smile, tugging at the kiss as he let his waist relax to draw himself out of me. Without letting a second pass after I was empty, Ichi filled me back up with a light moan rumbling from his throat.

His arm relaxed on my waist before I felt warm scales rub over my skin, his slim tail curling up my thigh and waist before lazily gripping onto my left breast. With each deep thrust into me, his tail tightened up before relaxing. It felt like he was milking my breast, and I loved it.

Each little thing Ichi did set my nerves aflame, making me both want more and want less of what he was doing to me. His member hadn't swollen up like the others had, but it still felt

larger

somehow.

"I promise not to leave any bruises on your body this time, my human mate," Ichi's voice sounded dark and threatening, my walls quivering with anticipation of what he was going to do next, "But that's all I'll promise. You

will

know who you belong to when you're here with me."

"You...I belong to you, Ichi--!" His free hand jabbed a few fingers into my mouth again, intertwining with my tongue as I felt a swelling sensation within my womb. Ichi could barely pull himself out of me anymore, but he kept thrusting in until our hips were flush with the other. It felt like he had somehow found a deeper path to my womb, one that was much more intense than what I had felt before. His fingers twitched inside of me before pulling out quickly, grabbing onto my free breast with his tail played with the other.

"Good...now, scream it so my brothers can hear you," His teeth lightly clamped down on my left earlobe, shifting his lips forward to suck on the cartilage as I felt his pace pick up. I tried to cry out around his fingers before his shaft hardened even more and twitched inside of me, my walls crying out in agony as he seemed to stretch them to their limit.

With a rough pull on my ear, Ichi let go of the lobe and buried his face into the crook of my neck, the pace picking up even faster as I heard him moan with each thrust. His moaning sounded erotic as I echoed with my own cries, reaching back with my hands and grabbing handfuls of his hair. Both of his hands clamped down on my breasts and used them as handles to control my pace, his tone raising in pitch before I felt a heat spill into me, his fingers digging into the soft skin as he plowed harshly into me. My back still pressed against his chest, I felt the heat ebb inside of me before Ichi's length suddenly swelled just like the others.

It was just the pressure my body was waiting for, my sight overcome by white as I let out a cry so loud, my family back in America surely heard me. Ichi's hands kept me from falling, his body still insisting that he wasn't finished with me.

His lips locked with mine as my head rolled back onto his shoulder, lightly pinching my nipples as another wave of heat collided with my womb, "You're mine, (y/n)...all mine."

"I'm...all yours," I muttered roughly, my throat sore as my body begged for a break from the rough treatment. Another cascade of warmth in my womb

sent shudders rippling through my body, triggering another orgasm that caused my walls to clamp down on his swollen member.

The water around us calmed down as he held me in the same position, allowing me to recuperate from the intense mating. Gently, Ichi lay me flat on my stomach on the flat rocks just next to the spring, staying behind me as I caught my breath.

"Geez, Ichi..." I laughed a little, resting my head on one of my cheeks, "I certainly wasn't expecting that for our first mating..."

"I never said I was finished."

His tail pushed my legs open wide as he rammed back in from his partially pulled out position, instantly filling me up once more.

"I told you to scream it," Another thrust as I cried out from underneath him, "Loud enough for my brothers to hear you. I won't stop until you let them know that you're mine."

Ichi's hands pressed down on my shoulder blades, keeping me face down as he continued his movements.

It was nighttime when I could think again, wrapped up gently in Ichi's coils and dressed in dry clothes.